



CHECKLIST FOR MEMORY CARE

QUESTIONS TO ASK WHEN CONSIDERING A MEMORY CARE COMMUNITY

When you are considering a memory care facility for a parent or loved one, it is important to make sure that the care offered is closely aligned with their needs. You should get the answers to the below questions before you make a final decision about memory care.

QUESTIONS ABOUT YOUR LOVED ONE'S NEEDS

Question	Yes	No
Does your loved one wonder or seek exits?		
Does your loved one need help to eat?		
Does your loved one require diabetic care?		
Does your loved one need 24/7 supervision?		
Does your loved one show aggression or exhibit other behaviour issues?		
Does your loved one need help toileting or experience incontinence?		
Does your loved one require assistance with mobility, using a walker or wheelchair?		
Does your loved one need any ongoing medical attention or treatments – e.g. dialysis or colostomy care?		

QUESTIONS TO ASK AT THE FACILITY

Safety and Staffing

How many hours of training does the staff receive? (per month)

What is the daytime staffing ratio (i.e. number of residents per care giver)?

What is the staffing ratio at night?

What medical services are available?

Can outside (visiting) care be arranged? If so, who coordinates that care?

Is a nurse on duty 24 hrs per day? If not, how many hours is a nurse on duty and what are those hours?

Question	Yes	No
Does the facility have secure buildings and secure grounds?		
Does the staff have sufficient and current training?		
Does each resident have an individual care plan?		
Is there a visiting physician?		
Can you care for wheelchair-bound or bedridden residents?		
Are you able to care for residents who are physically aggressive or who exhibit disruptive behaviour?		

Features and Treatments

Question	Yes	No
Do they have an assisted-living-to-Alzheimer's care bridge program for early-stage patients?		
Do they have walking paths or circular walking paths for residents?		
Snoezelen rooms? Or other light treatment?		
Do they have a special memory care dining program?		
Do they group residents by cognitive level?		
Do they offer: Pet therapy?		
Music therapy?		
Reminiscence therapy?		
Parkinson's care?		
Vascular dementia care?		

Policies

What type of care are they not able to provide? How do they transition residents from memory care to skilled nursing?

Question	Yes	No
Do they provide a thorough assessment before admission?		
How often do they update families about residents' well-being?		
Do you understand their policy for handling medical emergencies?		
Do you understand how the fee structure works?		
Is there one flat fee, or separate fees for housing and care?		
Do you understand the discharge policy?		

Your gut checks

Question	Yes	No
Does the staff appear to be knowledgeable and caring?		
Do residents have free access to outdoor areas?		
Is the facility easy to navigate?		
Does their philosophy of care resonate with you?		

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:
