

Family meeting: discussion topics

Keeping family members informed of care plans and working together on future planning can ensure that quality of life is maintained for your loved one. Family meetings may help this process, and advanced preparation ensures a smooth meeting. This checklist may get the process of preparing an agenda started.

State the purpose of the meeting.	Determine who has decision-making responsibilities (e.g., financial, medical, hiring a caregiver, etc.).
Describe your loved one's capabilities and needs.	Decide on successor guardians, if applicable.
Recognize caregiving concerns and discuss sharing responsibilities:	Successor guardians should be multi-generational.
Who has flexibility to help?Who is geographically closest?How do we split up duties?Identify emergency contact	Identify legal instruments that are or will be in place, such as wills, advance directives, powers of attorney, and trusts.
Identify projected expenses and lifestyle needs:Medical expensesPersonal assistanceAssistive devices	Choose trustees, if a trust is or will be put into place. Trustees and their successors should be multigenerational. A corporate trustee can be a co-trustee to assist with financial decisions and tax preparation.
TransportationHousing	Summarize decisions made and schedule the next meeting. After the meeting, provide a written summary of what each person has agreed to, as well as an emai
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