

How Much Do You Know About Home Care?

Home Care Trivia Challenge – Answer Key

Will Medicare pay for long-term in-home care?

- Yes
- No
- Sometimes

Although Medicare may pay for some home health care costs if very specific criteria are met, it was never intended to cover long-term in-home care.

Hiring an independent caregiver privately is less expensive than using a home care agency.

- True
- False

Although at first glance hiring an independent caregiver may look less expensive than hiring a caregiver through an agency, there are many hidden costs associated with hiring an independent caregiver. These costs include taxes and worker's compensation coverage, not to mention the risks of no supervision or monitoring of the caregiver.

Home care is not appropriate for someone with Alzheimer's disease or dementia.

- True
- False

Oftentimes, a home care agency can provide specialized care for a person with Alzheimer's or dementia.

ADL stands for...

- Assisted Daily Living
- Activities of Daily Living
- Ambulated Daily Living

Activities of Daily Living are often referred to in home care, as they are looked at when assessing which level of care is most appropriate for a person. Activities of daily living are activities which people engage in on a daily basis, such as bathing, getting dressed, getting in or out of a chair or bed, using the toilet and walking.

All home care agencies must perform criminal background checks on caregivers before sending them to a client's home.

- True
- False

Every state has different regulations for home care agencies, and some states still do not regulate home care agencies at all. It is important to verify that your home care agency thoroughly screens their caregivers PRIOR to employment when interviewing home care agencies.

Your mother is recovering from hip surgery. Which type of care would be most appropriate?

- Home care
- Home health care
- Nursing home

Some level of rehabilitation will always be required after hip surgery. Research has shown that patients recover more quickly in the comfort of their own homes; therefore home health care would be the best choice for this situation. A home health care agency not only will be able to provide traditional home care services such as cooking, housekeeping and companionship, but physical therapists and skilled nursing care as well.

The term "private duty" stands for...

- Supportive care services
- Tax free care
- Care for veterans

Private duty services are basically any supportive type of services. They run the gamut from errands and transportation, to companionship, to personal care, to nursing. Whatever services needed to stay at home, or needed to supplement existing care can fall under private duty or privately paid services. There is not usually a doctor's order needed, nor is there necessarily a medical component to the services. It really can be any type of service that is provided to someone who is frail or elderly to allow that person to have more independence in his or her lifestyle or choice of living situation.