

How to Choose an Alzheimer's Disease/Dementia Program

The factors you may want to consider are identified below under each of the categories. Be sure to observe, as well as to inquire about these services when rating the various programs or facility.

Directions: For each category, fill in the boxes below with the appropriate rating: 2 = outstanding 1 = acceptable 0 = unacceptable

HCR ManorCare Other Care Facility Other Care Facility

PROGRAM PHILOSOPHY AND GOALS

HCR ManorCare	Other Care Facility	Other Care Facility	
			Encourage resident independence and functioning
			Ensure dignity and individual expression
			Ensure resident safety
			Reduce confusion and agitation
			Minimize the use of physical restraints and behavior-related medications
			Enhance orientation and freedom of movement
			Promote family involvement

INDIVIDUAL PLAN OF CARE

HCR ManorCare	Other Care Facility	Other Care Facility	
			Comprehensive assessments addressing the resident's current and changing needs
			Personalized plan of care for each resident
			Planning process involving resident, family, interdisciplinary care team and physician
			Regular reassessment of needs

FAMILY SERVICES

HCR ManorCare	Other Care Facility	Other Care Facility	
			Family support group meetings
			Ongoing education, support and counseling
			Family conferences and involvement in care planning
			Opportunities for families to socialize

HCR ManorCare Other Care Facility Other Care Facility

STAFF

HCR ManorCare	Other Care Facility	Other Care Facility	
			Program director and/or programming coordinator
			Staff educated in the disease process and care techniques
			Ongoing specialized staff training and education
			Dedicated, positive, caring, attentive, friendly
			Interdisciplinary team approach
			Consulting mental health and other physical care specialists
			Direct care by licensed nurses

STRUCTURED PROGRAMMING

HCR ManorCare	Other Care Facility	Other Care Facility	
			Planned, organized schedule or activities 7 days a week
			Activities focusing on resident's strengths
			Active and passive programs from life skills to exercise, music, art, current events and social activities
			Short, flexible and success-oriented activities
			Large group, small group and one-on-one activities

RESIDENTS

HCR ManorCare	Other Care Facility	Other Care Facility	
			Engaged in activities
			Appear comfortable
			Well-groomed
			Settled, contented

HCR ManorCare Other Care Facility Other Care Facility

DINING AND NUTRITION

HCR ManorCare	Other Care Facility	Other Care Facility	
			Specifically tailored food and nutrition plans created to individual's needs and capabilities
			Modified menus
			Between-meal snacks and drinks
			Innovative food presentation techniques that ease and encourage eating
			Family-style dining
			Special adaptive utensils
			Family welcomed to eat with resident

ENVIRONMENT

HCR ManorCare	Other Care Facility	Other Care Facility	
			Self-contained, secure, cheerful yet calm atmosphere
			Enclosed courtyard
			Dedicated dining, activity and private areas
			Uncomplicated floor plan and visual cues to help with orientation
			Easily accessible bathrooms in common activity area
			Simplified, soothing and homelike atmosphere

HCR ManorCare	Other Care Facility	Other Care Facility

Add scores and compare totals