

Alzheimer Society

S A S K A T C H E W A N

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Guide to Choosing Private Homecare

The Alzheimer Society of Saskatchewan prepared this guide to help families choose a private homecare agency that will best meet their needs when looking for an alternative to Saskatchewan Health Authority (SHA) care or if needing to supplement SHA services.

There are many private homecare agencies in Saskatchewan to choose from. It is important to know that private homecare is not regulated in Saskatchewan.

When looking for a private homecare, we suggest that you ask questions and compare those answers with what is most important to your family.

Please see the reverse side of this sheet for suggested questions to ask when meeting with a private homecare agency. These questions have been adapted from the Alzheimer Society of Ontario's *Guide to Choosing Homecare*, 2016.

Questions to ask Private Homecare Agencies:

- What kind of services do you provide and what is your application process like?
- What are the costs?
- Is the agency accredited by an independent body? What were the accreditation results?
- How do you ensure the quality of your services and continuity of care?
- Will I have the same employee/care provider all the time or will it be various providers depending on the schedule?
- How do you communicate and work with family members?
- Are there regular care planning meetings?
- What are your procedures to resolve any problems that might come up?
- What is your cancellation policy?
- Can (the homecare agency) provide the names of 1-2 families as a reference?
- How do you screen your employees prior to hiring them?
- Are your employees insured and bonded?
- How are employees supervised?
- Are your employees specially trained to care for someone with dementia? If so, what type of training do they have?

Call our Dementia Helpline:

If you have questions, we can help. Call our Dementia Helpline, Monday to Friday, 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. Call **1-877-949-4141** or email: helpline@alzheimer.sk.ca

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Changes Everything**