

Specific Concerns: What is the transition period like when first having a caregiver in the home?

Each person experiences their own transition period related to in-home care. Some people are readily accepting of receiving care and are immediately trusting of their caregiver. Other people need time to grow accustomed to the idea of accepting or paying for care.

Most people need 60 days before they grow accustomed to a new way of life. This isn't true for every person, as the more independent-minded the individual, the less likely they will be readily accepting of care.

If a person has dementia, it is not uncommon for the older adult to have some amount of paranoia and fear with a stranger in their home. It is also not uncommon for an older adult with dementia to believe the caregiver is a known family member, past friend, or even someone who is not welcomed in their home. It may be possible that going along with the senior's perception leads to greater success rather than attempting to clarify the situation. Often times as it relates to dementia, it is more helpful to enter their world of fantasy than it is to attempt to prove a reality.

Most everyone has a period of adjustment to become accepting of care, to trust a caregiver and to let down barriers or privacy and to embrace the concept of receiving services.

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