

Interviewing the Caregiver

Be sure to welcome the caregiver and the agency representative, make them feel comfortable and at ease. This is a mutual partnership for you, your family and the care provider. Many caregivers may appear uncomfortable speaking about their own skills in an interview. Also allow them the opportunity to interview you and the family as well so they understand your expectations.

Inquire about their clinical training

Where did they go to school?

How long have they been a Certified Nurse Assistant?

What did they like best about school?

What did they find most challenging?

Do they have any specialized training?

Why do they work in home care?

Inquire about the **kind of diagnoses** they have cared for.

If appropriate, inquire about their **experience with hospice care.**

What are some **challenges** they have experienced in the home environment?

Inquire about their comfort level with the **domestic responsibilities**; cooking, housekeeping, laundry.

Inquire what kind of **meals** they like to prepare and discuss your loved one's dietary needs. What is their favorite recipe?

Inquire about **daily activities** they might engage in to keep your loved one engaged. For example, reading the paper, watching their favorite TV station with them, puzzles, board games, looking at pictures, walking, exercise, passive range of motion.

Inquire about what **skills** they think are the most important to have.