

TARGETED INTERVIEW QUESTIONS FOR DEMENTIA

- What is the exact diagnosis of the type of dementia?
- Name and contact number of neurologist/gerontologist.
- Last Mini-Mental Status Exam (MMSE), if known.
- Describe subject as mild, moderate, or severe dementia.
- Determine which description is most appropriate: Mild confusion and forgetfulness, short-term memory affected.
- Difficulty distinguishing time, place and person. Some language difficulties.
- Nearly complete loss of judgment, reasoning, and loss of some physical control.
- Does the subject know his own name?
- Does the subject know where he is when at home?
- Does the subject recognize the local neighborhood?
- Does the subject recognize familiar faces?
- Will the subject answer to his name being called?
- Is the subject able to conduct a conversation?
- How long can the subject do or discuss something before forgetting?
- How long does a conversation last until an average person suspects something is wrong or not quite right?
- Describe the subject's ability to tell time.
- Has the subject experienced personality or emotional changes? Describe.
- Does the subject have delusions? Describe.
- Does the subject have paranoia? Describe.
- Does the subject have hallucinations? Describe.
- Does the subject have depression? Describe.
- Has the subject experienced an emotional breakdown? Describe.
- Has the subject shown violence towards others? Describe.
- Is the subject registered in the Alzheimer's Association's MedicAlert® + Safe Return® program or any other similar registry? Describe any identification or marking jewelry or labels the subject might be wearing.

[] List all of the subject's addresses, dwelling types, and how long he has lived at each address going back to childhood. List locations even if they no longer exist. What jobs and occupations did the subject have at each location?

[] Did the subject recently move or change locations? If so, when? What was the previous location? How has he adjusted to being in a nursing home/new location?

[] How have caregivers adjusted their routines?

[] List of all immediate relatives and distant relatives the subject communicated with during their lifetime?

[] Is the subject familiar with the area where last seen?

[] What is the subject's favorite place?

[] Has the subject been involved with outdoor classes, scouting, military, overnight experiences, or outdoor recreation? Describe.

[] Is the subject afraid of noises, crowds, dogs, traffic, water, horses, the dark, or other items? Describe how he reacts.

[] How does the subject respond to strangers? Does he approach strangers?

[] Is the subject dangerous to himself? Dangerous to others?

[] Has the subject ever wandered away before, and you (the interviewee) did not know his location for 5 minutes or more? If so, for each incident describe the following: Where was the subject last seen? What was the subject doing when last seen? Events that might have caused the subject to have wandered? What actions were taken? Where was the subject found? What was the distance "as the crow flies" from the point the subject was last seen and where found? How was the subject found? List any medical problems that resulted from being lost.

[] What jobs and occupations has the subject held throughout his life?

[] Subject's hobbies and interests? Able to still engage in hobby?

[] What are subject's daily habits? Did they occur on the day last seen?

[] Distance subject typically walks each day (e.g., during the past week).

[] Number of walks during the past week.

[] Greatest distance subject has walked during the past three months? During the past ten years?

[] Estimate the greatest distance you believe the subject could walk.

[] Describe the subject's ability to walk including any unique gait or shuffle. List any limitations to walking.

[] Does the subject talk about a person or place? Is it out of town? Describe.

[] Does the subject talk about a person who is no longer alive?

- [] Does the subject talk about visiting a person or place that is out of town? Describe.
- [] Has the subject attempted to visit a person or place without supervision? Describe.
- [] Can the subject drive a car safely? Can the subject find keys and start a car? Does he still have a driver's license? When was the last time he drove or expressed a desire to drive?
- [] Does the subject travel independently using public or private transportation?
- [] Has the subject attempted to travel independently on public or private transportation in the last six months?
- [] Does the subject walk or travel a considerable distance from home and return unaided? Describe.
- [] Does the subject get lost or confused easily in an unfamiliar setting?
- [] Does the subject get lost or confused easily at home or in living quarters?
- [] Does the subject wander? Wander at night? Wander during the day?
- [] Does the wandering appear goal-directed? Describe.
- [] Does the wandering appear random?
- [] Does the subject seek out exits or try to escape from present location?
- [] Does the wandering appear related to a search for a person or place? Provide a timeline of all events during the day.
- [] What was his emotional state when he was last seen? How does that compare to his baseline?
- [] Determine the door the subject most likely exited from and attempt to determine a direction of travel.
- [] How old is the provided picture? Describe any changes since the photograph was taken? How old does the subject actually appear now? Are any recent videotape or DVD images available?