

November 2019 is National Family Caregivers Month!

#BeCareCurious

Family caregivers want their loved ones to have the best care possible - at the doctor's office, at the hospital, and at home. We encourage family caregivers across the country to ask questions, explore options and share in the care decisions that affect the health and well-being of their loved ones. Share this information with a caregiver today!

BeCareCurious About:

Your Loved One's Goals

You know your loved one better, and spend more time with them, than anyone else does. Talk to them about what their goals are for treatment and their care in general. It can be hard to talk about goals when facing a disease. But these talks help make sure your loved ones are getting the care they want.

Treatment Options

Is your loved one responding well to treatment? If not, ask your doctor if there are other options. New treatments are available every day. Whether it's a different dose, a new medication, or a new procedure, speak up and ask your doctor if there are options you and your loved one should consider.

Research

The internet is a great research tool, but it can also be full of conflicting, and even dangerous, advice - so don't stop there! Be curious about that article you just read. Is it from a reliable source? Talk to friends, family and doctors to ask as many questions as possible to learn about your loved one's condition.

The Care Plan

If your loved one is in the hospital, be sure to ask what happens next. Will they need home care after being discharged? Are there new medications or procedures you will need to manage at home? Will you be trained on what to do and how to do it? A lot of care happens at home and you need to be prepared to provide that care.

Coverage

Don't be shy about asking questions about insurance coverage. Is your parents' Medicare plan the best option or should you change plans during open enrollment? Was a medication switched for a medical reason, or because your insurance no longer covered it? If coverage was denied, what can you do to change their minds?

Family caregiving is stressful, but the more you know, the more confident and capable you will be when providing care. Remember - knowledge is power!

So this November, during National Family Caregivers Month, take time to BeCareCurious about your loved one's care!