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If youâ€™re looking for long-term care or a long-term care facility for you or a family member, itâ€™s very important that you first know some of the secrets of the nursing homes.

Itâ€™s always good to have a long-term plan and to be informed about the long-term care benefits of all of the nursing homes you are interested in. Here are some of the secrets of nursing homes we feel you should know before making a decision on which long term care facility is right for you and your family.

Secret 1 â€“ Understand what a Patient Review Instrument (PRI) is

A PRI is a medical assessment to determine the mental and physical abilities of an individual. In most states, it is a law for all candidates seeking placement in a long-term care facility. Many times a PRI is giving as the result of an emergency room visit, but nursing homes usually offer a home visit by a nurse to perform the PRI.

A PRI can be paid privately, or if qualified, can be paid through Medicaid.

Secret 2 â€“ You have a say

These days, there are many ways to become involved with the long-term care facility you choose. You and your family can be actively involved in the improvements to your family memberâ€™s treatment and environment. By federal law, all nursing homes are required to have resident councils, and in some states the creation of a family council is also required.

If you are seeking long-term care for a loved one, you should ask about their resident and family councils, and seek out their role with the facility. It would be very beneficial to set up a short meeting with a council member.

Secret 3 â€“ You have a choice

As more and more nursing homes begin to establish an online presence, you have the power to search in-depth for the facility that is right for you. The easiest step would be to Google â€œlong term care facilityâ€• or â€œnursing homesâ€• followed by your specific location. For example, you could Google â€œLong term care facility buffalo nyâ€• and you would yield many results, all specific to Buffalo, NY.

There is also a great resource, www.seniorsite.com, in which they have a Nursing Home Directory that includes over 16,000 nursing homes so you can see which prospective nursing homes are rated the highest, and even view recommendations from other families.

To visit this directory, visit a http://seniorsite.com/nursing_home_directory/index.asp

Overall, we understand the process of choosing the long-term facility that best fits the needs of both you and your family. There are many short and long-term care benefits provided by each facility, and by researching them online and in person, you will find the perfect fit.

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LifeBridge Benefits offers seniors a distinct, creative opportunity, a Long-term care facilities include long term care benefits, death benefits, life settlement, a nursing homes, policy exchange, conversion policy and insurance conversion.

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