

ACCUCHEK® **Get SMART about Medicare changes.** Know Your Rights

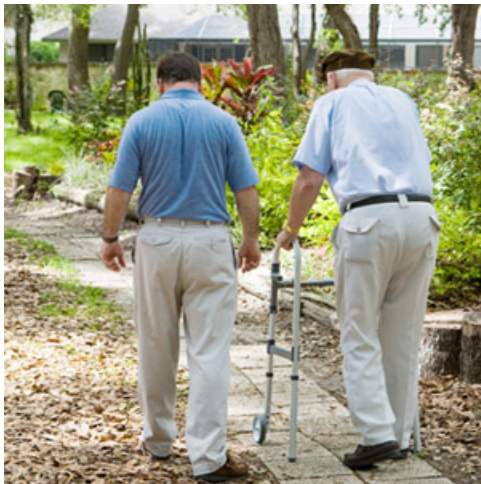
Home » Senior Living » Assisted Living » Articles » "I'm Not Moving to a Nursing Home!" Responses...

# "I'm Not Moving to a Nursing Home!" Responses to 7 Excuses

By [Lori Johnston](#)

Text Size: - +

- [2 Comments](#)  
 [Follow This](#)  
 [Print](#)  
 [Email](#)



Elders often make their objections clear to children, family members and friends when they're faced with the [prospect of moving to a senior living community](#), such as assisted living.

Some concerns revolve around giving up their independence or leaving a long-time home. Others are based on the perception of senior housing, fear of the unknown and elders confronting the reality that they are aging.

[Find an Assisted Living Facility](#)



Don't ignore the objections, which can be overwhelming. Instead, prepare to respond to them, with insight from Gail Samaha, an elder advisor and founder of GMS Associates in Scituate, Mass., and Sheri L. Samotin, founder and president of LifeBridge Solutions, a Naples, Fla., company that provides family transition planning, caregiver coaching and other services.

## Objection 1: "Oh, don't worry about me."

*Caregiver response:* "I do worry about you. That is my job as your child. That's my responsibility, to be sure that you are safe. I want you to stay in your home for as long as you can. But let's discuss the pros and cons."

*Expert tip:* When it's appropriate, you may need to be blunt and say "It's no longer working." But when delivering this dose of reality, back it up with reasons why you and their doctor (if he/she agrees) feel this way, Samaha says. Cite examples when possible – incidents which no matter how minor, could have easily been disastrous – the time dad fell off the ladder doing yard work; the evenings that mom accidentally left a burner on overnight after cooking dinner."

## Objection 2: "I'm not moving to a nursing home!"

- Assisted Living
- Alzheimer's & Memory Care
- Elder Law Attorneys
- Funeral Homes
- Independent Living
- Home Care
- Hospice Care
- Nursing Homes

[See My Results](#)

## Caregiver Poll

\*Please answer 4 quick questions in this poll\*  
Question #1: Should physician-assisted suicide be legal?

- Yes
- No

[Submit](#)

### [GA Tech PMASE Program](#)

[pmase.gatech.edu/SystemsEngMasters](http://pmase.gatech.edu/SystemsEngMasters)  
Attend a Free Online Info Session to Learn More About the Program!



### [High School Diploma](#)

[www.PennFoster.edu](http://www.PennFoster.edu)  
Don't settle for a TEST. Get your High School Diploma at home.



### [Work at Home Jobs \(2013\)](#)

[weeklymarks.com](http://weeklymarks.com)  
\$47/hr Part-Time Job Openings.  
Requirements: Must Have Computer. AdChoices



## Ask A Question

Get answers or advice from other

*Caregiver response:* "Assisted Living is very different from a nursing home. It's like a condominium. You have your own apartment, there's a sit-down restaurant, activities every day and medical personnel onsite just in case you need them. Why don't we go take a look – no commitments – we'll just check it out, so you can see what you think."

*Expert tip:* Your parents' generation likely remembers the [institution-like nursing homes](#) of the 1960s and 70s. Today, most elders go to assisted living communities, rather than directly into a nursing home (unless they are recovering from a hospital stay) Clearly explain the differences between assisted living and the nursing homes of the past. Sit with your parent and visit the websites of some communities in your area. When they see photos of the accommodations, food and grounds, they may be more open to an in-person visit.

### **Objection 3: "But I'm not ready yet."**

*Caregiver response:* "OK, but we can prepare in advance, so we can take our time and explore all the options."

*Expert tip:* Talk about how comforting it would be to both the elder and the family to know that if an emergency ever happened, mom or dad would already be in an environment that provides that cushion of care right when its needed it?"

### **Objection 4: "I want to decide where and how I am going to live."**

*Caregiver response:* "I want you to choose where you want to live. Let's go on tours to look at your options. The ultimate decision is yours."

*Expert tip:* You can take charge to help them see their options and review the contract and costs, but give them control in the decision-making process, Samotin says. For example, let them choose between two facilities, or if that is not possible due to location, services and price, let them choose their room.

### **Objection 5: "I don't want to be around all those old people."**

*Caregiver response:* "Many residents are the same age as you and they are as active as you are. They go to the theater, they play bridge and blackjack. They have book clubs, happy hours and movie nights. Let's just go check it out."

*Expert tip:* To have this response, you need to have done your research about senior living facilities and which [amenities and activities](#) may be of interest to your parent. Or if they have a sense of humor, Samotin suggests this response: "You're right. They do look kind of old. You're going to come in here and shake them up. You're going to be the talk of the town." Regardless of the response, the goal is to convince your parent to at least visit a senior community and see with their own eyes what it's all about.

### **Objection 6: "I can't afford it."**

*Caregiver response:* "Actually, it will cost about the same – or maybe even less – than you're paying for your house. I have done the research. With the money you are spending on your mortgage (or rent) taxes, heat, utilities and other costs, it can be more affordable. And there are funds available, with your long-term care insurance and even veterans assistance."

*Expert tip:* This will take some legwork, as you figure out your parents' existing monthly expenses and how that compares to the cost of senior housing, Samaha says. The options for financial assistance also vary, depending on their background.

### **Objection 7: "It's too much work to move."**

*Caregiver response:* "You're spending all this time worrying about your home. I

caregivers. Ask your question!

140 characters left

Ask

#### Recent Caregiver Questions

[Is a psychiatric evaluation required to get into most senior independent living places?](#)

3 days ago | [2 Answers](#)

[How do I help dad adjust to his new living arrangements at an assisted living facility?](#)

3 days ago | [15 Answers](#)

#### Follow AgingCare.com



Sign up for our newsletter

Sign Up

want you to be able to enjoy your life. I want to enjoy the time we have together, instead of cleaning the house, mowing the lawn and worrying about your safety."

*Expert tip:* You want to preserve your relationship with your parent, Samaha says. Explain to them how the move could improve your relationship with them, for the better.

Next: [6 Ways to Prepare for "The Talk" About Moving to Senior Living](#)

Read more about: [assisted living transition](#)

## Related Articles

[7 Communication Techniques for Talking to Elderly Parents](#)

[Assisted Living Checklist : What to Look for in Senior Housing](#)

[No Strings Attached: Trying Out Assisted Living](#)

[Signs That Tell You It's Time for Assisted Living](#)

## Caregivers Asked

[How can my elderly parents move into a nursing home without losing their home?](#)

[Do we get more in home care or move to nursing home care when is it time?](#)

[How can I find a nursing home that is more like a home setting and not an institution?](#)

## Recent Articles

[What it Really Means to 'Just Do Your Best'](#)

[Elders Should Exercise Caution Before Turning to Payday Loans](#)

[Why Am I So Happy Within My Alzheimer's?](#)

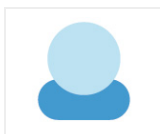
[Why Mom Might Be More Likely to Discuss Money Matters than Dad](#)

[Remember Humpty-Dumpty](#)

[ADD YOUR COMMENT »](#)

## Comments

Comments 1 to 2 of 2



[Kedwards460](#)

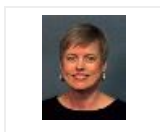
[Give a Hug](#)

Sep 8, 2012

#6 is my mom's mantra. Unfortunately, she's correct. When she bought her LTC policy she chose a policy that will only pay for 2 yrs of nursing home care. (With her PD and the fact that this could go on for another 5-10 yrs that's not enough). Too late to change the policy. SUCKS! Plus, she has no mortgage since the house is paid for. She's too 'rich' to qualify for subsidies (although VA might help some since dad was a veteran) and too poor to pay it all on her own unless she wants to spend down all her money and assets (house) which will probably end up happening since her LTC will only cover so much and eventually I can't be the 24/7 help since she will need more skilled care that will most likely exceed 2 yrs.

[Like this \(0\)](#)

[Report this Post](#)



[graceterry](#)

[Give a Hug](#)

Sep 26, 2012

Excellent article! Thank you!

[Like this \(0\)](#)

[Report this Post](#)

Comments 1 to 2 of 2