

# HOW TO CONVINCE A LOVED ONE TO USE A MEDICAL ALERT DEVICE



Aging in place is one of the last bastions of independence for many seniors. If your aging loved ones have been determined to hold onto their independence equipping them with a medical alert system can help them achieve this goal. Investing in a personal medical alert device is a way to let your loved one maintain independence!

Many individuals will say they don't want to wear a personal medical device because they believe it will mean they are "unfit" or "not healthy enough" to live alone. If you share with them that these devices are worn as a preventative measure in the event they suffer a medical emergency or a trip or fall (which is a very real and startling statistic for individuals aged 65 and older) they may see the benefit of wearing one.

## How can you appeal to the emotional side of this conversation? Here are some tips:

**#1** "It's a fact of life, Mom and Dad, that people over the age of 65 are more likely to experience a trip or fall". Let them know that if they have a personal medical alert device, a simple push of the button will provide access to medical care and treatment. Statistics show that fast response during an emergency helps create a better chance at recovery.

**#2** "We worry about you." This statement could be especially true if your parent is

widowed or lives alone. Even if both parents are still living, each of them can have a personal medical alert pendant and this will provide peace of mind for the family.

**#3** "It's for peace of mind." If you let your aging loved ones know it's as much for your peace of mind as it is for them, they may agree to the device as a way to not only allow them to remain independent in their own home, but as a way to provide you peace of mind.

It's a win-win.

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**IF YOUR LOVED ONES ARE MORE LOGICAL THAN EMOTIONAL, HERE ARE SOME LOGICAL ARGUMENTS YOU CAN SHARE WITH THEM FOR THE IMPORTANCE OF HAVING A PERSONAL MEDICAL DEVICE IN THEIR HOME (AND ON THEIR PERSON):**

**#1** One out of three individuals aged 65 and older will fall in the home. The longer they lie there without receiving medical care, the more serious the medical complications could become.

**#2** A personal medical alert device will allow you to age in place. These devices offer you the ability to remain independent while providing access to medical care if needed. In the event of a medical emergency, you may not be able to reach a phone and with one of these devices, you won't have to worry.

**#3** If your parents do not want to move into an assisted living facility, you should stress to them that one of these devices may mean they won't have to. A personal medical device can perhaps delay that move for years, or perhaps for the duration of their lives.

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If you can explain the viability of a personal medical alert device and equate it to an insurance policy – it's something you pay for and hope you never need to use, but you are grateful it's there if the time arises that you need it – your loved ones may see the benefit.

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Fall Detection Devices



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