

Living Settings Checklist

	Present and problematic	Present: Not problematic	N/A	Comments
PHYSICAL STRUCTURE				
Security measures				
Smoke/fire detectors; fire extinguisher				
Carbon monoxide detectors				
Locks on doors				
Alarm system				
Steps vs. ramps				
One- vs. multi-level house				
Number of bathrooms				
Location/size of bedrooms				
Deck/other places to safely “hang out”				
Size/location of kitchen and family room				
STAFFING				
Ratio of staff to residents: weekday/weekday evenings				
Ratio of staff to residents: weekends				
Ratio of staff to residents: holidays				
Staffing, caregiver turnover: percentage per month/year				
Administrative turnover: percentage per month/year				
Training of staff/ability for staff to model appropriate behaviors				
Level of supervision				
Staff member(s) with exceptionally punitive, intrusive, and/or rigid personality				

	Present and problematic	Present: Not problematic	N/A	Comments
ENVIRONMENT				
Small group of residents (less than 4)				
Cleanliness of grounds				
Cleanliness of living areas				
Cleanliness of bedrooms and baths				
Cleanliness of other residents				
Cleanliness of staff				
Routine maintained 7 days/week				
Variable routine weekdays vs. weekends				
Scheduled or encouraged "down-time" (the more down-time, the more negative behaviors often observed)				
Routine displayed prominently with pictures and words				
Dietary management provided				
SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT/INTERVENTION				
Routine activities/openness to new ideas for social activities				
Scheduled vs. spontaneous activities				
Required vs. optional activities				
Opportunity for therapeutic activities (music, art, drama)				
Opportunity for entertainment (pool, cards, etc.)				
Opportunity for leisure skills/hobbies				
Opportunity for shared/supervised work (yard, kitchen, etc.)				
Opportunities for trips to community events				
Shared bedrooms, bathrooms				

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SENSORY ISSUES				
AUDITORY				
Barking dogs in neighborhood				
Housing located close to a busy street, railroad, airport, etc.				
Radio or TV playing throughout day				
Whistling, singing, self-talking, frequently heard within house				
Resident with particularly high-pitched or loud voice				
Number of residents				
Private bedrooms, bathrooms				
Shared bedrooms, bathrooms				
“Quiet area” available				
OLFACTORY (SMELLS)				
Scheduled vs. spontaneous activities				
Required vs. optional activities				
Spicy or unusual types of food often prepared or cooked in living setting				
Scented body, bath, and hair products, perfumes, candles apparent in housing				
MOVEMENT				
Open-backed steps in stairways				
Available rocking chair				
Available outside swing				
Numerous flights of stairs to climb				
Stair railing available				
Heights of decks, stairs, windows				
Outdoor areas safe				
Opportunity for daily exercise				

	Present and problematic	Present: Not problematic	N/A	Comments
VISUAL PROCESSING				
Fluorescent lighting				
Natural lighting				
Vertical shades in house				
Window shades kept down during day				
Messy environment				
Orderly environment				
Numerous distractions present (e.g. many residents constantly moving about, many staff changes during day, additional personnel, bright wall colors, etc.)				
TOUCH PROCESSING				
Enough chairs or sitting area for all residents in living setting				
Separate sleeping quarters				
Flooring allows for going barefoot				
Independent food choices allowed				
COMMENTS:				