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### Why This Matters

**Clear communication can lead to:**


- Better outcomes
- Reduced caregiver stress
- Earlier interventions
- You are a **key part** of the care team

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### Common Mistakes to Avoid

What **NOT** to Do:

- ▶ Lead with blame or frustration
- ▶ Speak in generalities ('He's just worse')
- ▶ Talk around the person with dementia
- ▶ Come unprepared
- ▶ Dominate the visit without listening



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### What Physicians Appreciate

What **TO** Do:

- ▶ Be calm and specific
- ▶ Bring notes or logs
- ▶ Involve your loved one if possible
- ▶ Use respectful, clear language
- ▶ Ask questions about next steps

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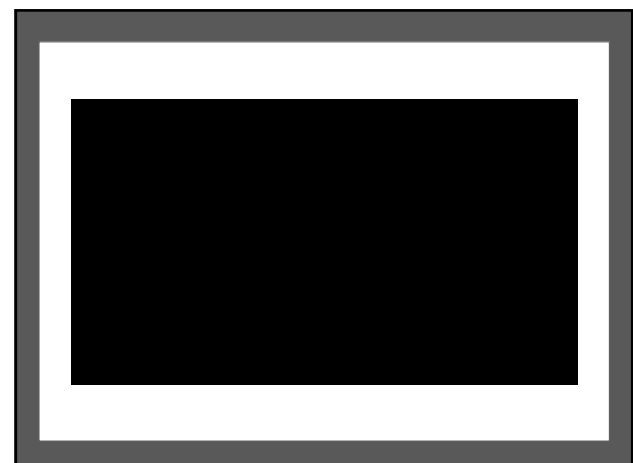


### The Frustrated Daughter


Bad Example:

- ▶ "Nothing you've done has worked. He's worse. Just prescribe something!"
- ▶ Why it doesn't work:
  - Lacks specifics
  - Emotion blocks collaboration
  - Missed opportunity to build trust

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### The Thoughtful Advocate

🗨️ Good Example:

▶ "Over the past 3 weeks, he's waking up confused 3-4 times a week. I brought notes—would you take a look?"


▶ Why it works:

- Calm tone
- Clear details
- Asks thoughtful questions
- Involves the person with dementia

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### When your Doctor Just Does not Listen!

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### Empowered Questions to Ask

▶ 🧠 Questions that help:

- What changes might we expect next?
- What community resources are available?
- How can I support their overall well-being?
- Who do I contact in an emergency?

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### Final Tips for Success

✨ Remember:

- **Preparation = Power**
- Your voice matters
- Partnering with the doctor helps everyone
- Kindness opens doors, even in hard conversations

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### Thank You

▶ Questions?

▶ Stay connected:

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