

## FAMILY MEETING

Objectives of a Family Meeting should include discussion of the following:

Patient Care  
Caregiver Support  
Access to Resources  
Assign and Confirm Roles of caregivers  
Long Range Planning

It is important that one person (usually the spouse or child) is NOT solely responsible for the caregiving.

Decide early about actions regarding dangers to the sufferer and loved ones.

### Driving

If the sufferer is already at risk, by running stop signs, having accidents, running off the road ACT quickly. Taking away the car keys can be difficult, reasoning is not there. But the safety of your loved one and others is most important.

A sole caregiver may be made to feel like “the bad guy” if they take this step alone. Adult family members may express concern and as a group say it is for their loved one’s safety that they no longer drive. It should not be a be made into a confrontation but may be perceived as one.

### Firearms

If there are guns in the home, car, office or access to guns, steps should be taken to secure them. Ammunition should be secured also. Hiding firearms is not sufficient. They should be taken out of the home completely or put in a safe that is accessible only to the caregiver.

## PATIENT CARE

What are the options?

What are your loved one's needs?

What are the needs of the primary caregiver?

When will you know you can no longer keep your loved one at home?

Who will help?

YOUR CONCERNS?

## CAREGIVER SUPPORT

What do I need to keep healthy and sane?

Time to myself to remember who I am.

Journal thoughts and feelings.

Exercise to de-stress and keep myself healthy.

Participate in a support group- talking with others (either in person or online) who are experiencing the same struggles.

Gain Family Support by way of assigning roles for family members.

Get Education about the disease? Knowing what the disease does to the sufferer will help to understand that it is THE DISEASE not the person you love that is behaving badly or doesn't care, etc.

Ask for help.

## LONG RANGE PLANNING

Seek financial planning advice.

Talk with your attorney. If you do not have an attorney ask for someone who has experience with clients with dementia.

If you have children, make sure they are okay. Counseling may be considered for any child with a parent who has a terminal illness.

Consider the enduring gift of brain tissue donation and make arrangements prior to death.

Remember your loved one the way they were BEFORE they got sick.

## RESOURCES

Go to [ftlda.org](http://ftlda.org) to

[View the Documentary: "Planning For Hope, Living With FTD"](#)

And see all [Resources](#) and [Caregiver Support](#) listings.