

Driving and Transportation Safety

Transportation can be an obstacle for many older people, and adjusting to either public transportation or rides from family are not easy. It is usually up to the family of the loved one who must handle transportation issues, and ensure they stay safe when on the roads. At HisGrip Home Care, we provide transportation to many of our clients on an as-needed basis. We take clients to doctor's appointments, shopping, post offices and craft stores. It is never uncommon for our clients to also make a stop at McDonalds or Burger King on the way home.

If an older person wants to continue driving, here are some points to consider when assessing their ability to continue driving safely:

Get a better idea about the driving skills of your relative by driving with him or her, or checking to see if they have had any traffic infractions recently.

Be very observant to their driving habits and overall handling of the vehicle.

Do not critique your loved one's driving instead provide support and continue to reassure them of their capabilities.

If you fear they have lost the ability to properly handle driving all the time, describe some viable alternatives such as driving during the day, and only driving on local streets.

Have your loved one's vehicle checked routinely for general maintenance.

Establish some better routines for your relative to follow such as planning the route before going anywhere, or ensuring that the weather will remain "driver friendly."

If you believe their safety is in jeopardy by their continuing to drive you should:

Consider using a licensed, bonded and insured Home Care Provider such as HisGrip Home Care located in Alpharetta, GA to provide transportation as needed.

Check on local and city transportation available such as buses and community shuttles that can take them to the store, church, and community centers.

See if other family members will help out by giving rides if needed.

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