



# IPMG Professional Development Webinar: Health Care Issues Affecting Aging Adults with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities - Q&A

Question	Answer
<p>I have had 4 individuals with epilepsy that at the age of 51 to 53, they suddenly stop eating and start very different behaviors than the norm. It has taken a lot of work and effort to figure it out but really never have. Is this a trend?</p>	<p>Changes are always a red flag and should be investigated.</p>
<p>Can adverse drug reactions show up fairly quickly during medication changes?</p>	<p>Yes. Adverse drug reactions can happen quickly in some individuals. General rule is within 10-14 days but could occur within a day of beginning a new medication.</p>
<p>As a non-medical person, is it appropriate for us to intervene about our observations regarding medication interactions/adverse reactions?</p>	<p>Support team members should express concerns to other team members and to the medical professional.</p>

Question	Answer
<p>Are there recommendations for navigating Medicaid/Medicare and the increased need to see medical specialists as an individual with I/DD ages?</p>	<p>This is a challenge but the more documentation that can be provided the better, and being persistent can be beneficial in obtaining a specialist referral.</p>
<p>Donna, any insight on older individuals and effects of UTI? Some teams have noticed like psychosis assoc. with this DX.</p>	<p>This is common within the aging population. Caregivers and support teams should be aware of the potential for UTI and seek treatment right away if uncommon symptoms are noted. This could include dementia-like symptoms.</p>
<p>I serve a woman who is aging. At one meeting the team thought we were seeing increased confusion and withdrawal. We started to pursue guardianship. By the time she went to court, we had to withdraw our request. She had gotten her hearing aids fixed and was herself again!</p>	<p>Excellent example, thank you for sharing!</p>
<p>What assessment tools are providers using to assess aging individuals? How often are the assessments completed? What is the IDT doing with the assessments?</p>	<p>At this time there does not seem to be a specific tool to use in assessing individuals that are aging. If the team sees changes, they should work with health care professionals in developing risk plans to address identified issues.</p>