



Mission/Vision

Therapeutic Environment

Data Driven process

Competent Staff

Smooth Transitions of Care

Families as Partners

Non-Med Approaches

Physician Support

## 6. Family Education

### Why the need for family education?

Families and resident advocates play an integral role in the life and care of residents. The better informed and educated they are, the greater the support and care of the resident. One of the best deterrents, ensuring that residents don't end up unnecessarily on antipsychotic meds, is to educate family members and resident advocates. This segment of the Change Package considers those things that an organization can do to effectively educate families.

#### Processes:

Use the accompanying resources to educate families.

Create opportunities for families to come together to learn about dementia and antipsychotic drug use.

Use the Decision Guide to help families understand the sensitive issues around advance directive choices

#### Indicators:

- Family councils or other educational forums are part of the culture of the organization
- Families are encouraged and empowered to be equal partners in the care of their loved ones

#### Resources:

- Introductory Guidance
- Antipsychotic Medication Fast Facts – AHCA/NCAL Quality Initiative
- Alzheimer's Association E-Services
- Fast Facts about Advanced Directives – Maine Elder Law
- [Decision Guide Resource Page and Family Booklet – CMS PCORI](#)