

A	Emergent	Only one condition needs to be present. Immediate help or placement is required.
A/B	Emergent/ Semi-Emergent	Can be either A or B depending on the cause, severity, and the person's response to the situation
B	Semi-Emergent	> 2 conditions indicate there are safety concerns that must be addressed and remediated.
C	Non-Emergent	>3 conditions are present. Additional help will be beneficial. Re-evaluate monthly.

Address any current concerns, and continue to monitor your person. There will come a time when it is not safe for them to live alone.

Visit www.banneralz.org for more information.

*Adapted from the University of Iowa, 2004

CARE T.I.P.S.



Try Including Practical Strategies

Living Alone

“What would you do if the house was on fire?”

When a person with dementia lives alone, a variety of concerns can arise since there are not eyes readily available to get an accurate picture of daily life. The person often lacks ability and insight to live safely and might not ask for help.

Dementia means changes in:

- Understanding (thinking)
- Reasoning (decision making)
- Sensory perception
- Memory

Any or all of these changes can lead to unsafe situations living alone at home, including self-neglect and exploitation by others.

Asking the person what he/she would do in an emergency can help assess their safety. To get a clearer picture, use the enclosed assessment* to determine if your person is safe living alone or being left alone for long periods.

A**A/B****B****C**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ___ Weight loss of >6 pounds or 10% body weight in 6 months, evidence of protruding bones ___ Presence of paranoia, hallucinations, delusions, aggression or thoughts of suicide ___ Threatens violence with/without weapons ___ Evidence of caregiver injury/ domestic violence ___ Repeated ER visits, hospitalizations ___ Evidence of substance abuse ___ Frequent calls to police or emergency services ___ Wandering outside the home ___ No food/rancid food in the home ___ Lack of safety with stove, power tools, yard ___ Unable to take medications correctly ___ Livestock/other animals receive inadequate care ___ Eviction notice served 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ___ Malfunctioning plumbing ___ Thermostats not set appropriately for weather conditions ___ Chronic anxiety, panic attacks, worry or depression is present ___ Unsafe driving or refuses to stop driving ___ Neighbors calling police 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ___ Not able to manage bowel/bladder care ___ Repeated calls to family/others asking what to do next ___ Dirty/infested household ___ Garbage accumulation ___ Food stored inappropriately ___ Taken advantage of by family, friends, neighbors ___ Refuses personal care for prolonged period of time 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ___ Phone calls from community members advising help is needed ___ Vegetative or socially isolated behavior (sitting all day with TV on or off) ___ Missing belongings, hiding things ___ Poor grooming, wearing the same clothing all the time, soiled appearance
Total:	Total:	Total:	Total: