

Is it time for a medical alert service?

Use this self-assessment as a guide to determine if a medical alert service is right for you.

A medical alert service can help independent older adults and individuals with chronic medical conditions feel more confident to continue living independently in the one place they feel most comfortable – their own home.

To find out if it's the right time to consider a medical alert service for yourself or someone you care for, answer the following 9 simple questions. For each question, check the box to the right if your answer is "Yes."

Questions	Yes
1. Are you alone for several hours during the day and/or night?	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. In the past year, have you fallen or been afraid of falling in your home?	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Have you been hospitalized or been to the emergency room in the past year?	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Do you have at least one of these chronic ailments (heart disease, stroke, COPD, osteoporosis, diabetes, arthritis)?	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Do you use a cane, walker, wheelchair, stair climber or other assistive device to help with balance or walking?	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Are you required to take several daily medications?	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Do you require assistance with at least one of the following activities (bathing, toileting, dressing, meal preparation, etc.)?	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Would a medical alert service provide peace of mind for your loved ones?	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. Is it important for you to continue living independently?	<input type="checkbox"/>
See chart at right to review the assessment for your score.	Total checks <input type="checkbox"/>

6 – 9 Yes Answers

This high score indicates there is a serious risk for a fall or other medical incident, suggesting that a medical alert service may be strongly advised.

3 – 5 Yes Answers

This score indicates there is a risk for a fall or other incident, suggesting that a medical alert service would be helpful and should be considered.

1 – 2 Yes Answers

This score indicates a medical alert service could be an important step towards maintaining independent living. Ask yourself two important questions:

1. If you fell tonight, how would you get up?
2. If you can't get up, how will you get help?

Call the number below to learn how the Lifeline service can help.

Please share the results of this self-assessment survey with your healthcare provider for additional guidance about whether a medical alert service is right for you. This self-assessment is not a diagnostic test or medical advice.

To order the Lifeline service or for more information, call:

University of Michigan
Visiting Care - Lifeline
Program (734) 477-7229

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PHILIPS
Lifeline

With Lifeline, help is just a press of a button away

Your Lifeline options

Step 1: Select a Personal Help Button

Choose between a pendant or wrist style.



Step 2: Select a Communicator

Choose the one that best meets your needs.



CarePartner Basic Unit

Working with your existing telephone, this unit offers all the benefits of 24-hour medical alert service, along with two-way voice communication.



CarePartner Telephone

This senior-friendly unit is both a telephone and a two-way communicator with enhanced features, including:

- High-volume speaker, handset and ringer control
- Ability to record medication and appointment reminders to help you stay on schedule

How Philips Lifeline works

1

Summon help

When you need help, just press your **Personal Help Button**, which activates the CarePartner Communicator.



2

Professional intervention

Your **CarePartner Communicator** then dials the Lifeline Response Center and establishes two-way voice communication.



3

Personal response

Within seconds, a **Lifeline Response Associate** accesses your profile and quickly assesses the situation.



4

Closed loop

The Associate then contacts a neighbor, loved one or emergency services, based on your specific needs.

The Lifeline Response Associate will follow up to ensure that help arrived.

