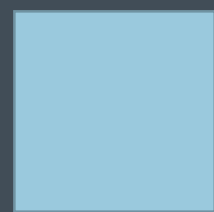


*The*  
**GUARDIANSHIP & HEALTHCARE**  
*— Assessment —*

**FOR SPECIAL NEEDS FAMILIES**

A 6- category assessment to determine if you need guardianship to manage your child's healthcare when they turn 18.



**guardian  
project**

Helping special needs families get Florida guardianship easily and affordably.

# HEALTHCARE ASSESSMENT

## CAPACITY

Does your child have the capacity to independently advocate for his/her own needs...

With doctors

With hospital staff

With insurance companies

YES MAYBE NO

Your child has the capacity to ask appropriate questions about their medical care.

Your child knows when it's appropriate to seek a second opinion about a treatment recommendation?

Does your child know when it's appropriate to seek help from trustworthy person about care options?

Your child knows when he/she is sick or injured.

Your child knows to seek medical care if they are sick or injured?

Your child knows where to get help with healthcare (i.e., GP doctor vs. emergency room).

## SENSORY CHALLENGES

Your child does not have sensory challenges that make it difficult for him or her to go to doctors or hospitals or get medical treatment.

YES MAYBE NO

Your child does not have sensory challenges that would make them avoid going to a doctor or hospital.

Your child does not have sensory challenges that make it difficult for him or her to understand medical recommendations?



Visit [GuardianProject.us](http://GuardianProject.us)

## COMPLEXITY OF MEDICAL NEEDS

The complexity of your child's medical needs makes it difficult for him or her to manage their healthcare.

YES MAYBE NO

You do not anticipate your child's medical needs to worsen, because of a progressive illness or disease or condition, such that it will likely get beyond their ability to manage over time?

## MEDICATIONS

Your child is not on medication where, if he/she stops taking it, they can no longer manage healthcare.

YES MAYBE NO

## FINANCIAL AWARENESS

Your child has the capacity to manage the financial side of healthcare (i.e., making co-pays or negotiating with insurance companies).

YES MAYBE NO

## FOLLOW-UP CARE

Your child can manage care follow up independently.

YES MAYBE NO

Your child can get prescriptions filled independently.

Your child will take medications as prescribed.

Your child can adhere to a treatment plan (i.e., physical therapy, special diet)?

Your child will schedule and go to the doctor for follow-up visits independently?

YES MAYBE NO

COUNT NUMBERS OF

\_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_

Analysis on next page.

## GUARDIANSHIP ANALYSIS

### **“YES” RESPONSES ARE 16+: GUARDIANSHIP ALTERNATIVES MAY WORK**

You responded “Yes” to 76% or more of the assessment questions, and serious consideration could be given to allowing your child to manage his or her healthcare independently, and defer getting guardianship. We would recommend a “wait and see” approach. If things change and you

Chances are that your child has sufficient capacity to execute a valid Durable Power of Attorney and Healthcare Proxy, which will give you the authority to help with the financial side of healthcare management, and the ability to assist your child if their condition gets worse and they cannot manage it for themselves. Keep in mind that these documents can be revoked by your child at any time.

This all being said, look at each of your “No” and “Maybe” responses carefully. Some of these assessment items are non-negotiable, and may, in their own right, merit guardianship on their own.

### **“NO” OR “MAYBE” RESPONSES (COMBINED) ARE 5+: CONSIDER GUARDIANSHIP**

You responded “No” or “Maybe” to 25% or more of the assessment questions, and serious consideration should be given protecting your child with guardianship. Your child will be unable to perform a number of the most basic items an adult would need to independently handle the management of his or her healthcare.

Keep in mind, getting guardianship does not require the removal of all of your child’s rights. Guardianship for a person with intellectual or developmental disabilities can be custom tailored to allow the parent to provide help in the specific areas where your child needs it. So, if you child can make independent decisions about other areas, like finances, marriage, living arrangements, you can preserve your child’s rights in those areas.



Guardian Project is a live online workshop, combined with the guidance of a lawyer and online community, that helps parents get guardianship for their disabled children stress free, and at a fraction of the cost of hiring a law firm.



*Learn more at [www.GuardianProject.us](http://www.GuardianProject.us)*