



advice

for who takes care of elderly people

Habits

- Encourage the elderly person to maintain relationships with other people, in cool places or rooms provided with air conditioner.
- Take the person out only in the coolest hours of the day (do not go out from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.).
- Be aware that taking baths and showers in tepid water is one of the best ways to quickly lower the body temperature.

Diet

- Suggest that they drink a lot of water periodically (at least 2 litres a day) even if they are not thirsty.
- Do not give them soft drinks or alcohol or iced drinks.
- Cook light food, suggest that they eat a lot of fruits and vegetables.

Clothes

- Make them wear light and comfortable clothes, in light colours and natural materials (avoid synthetic fibres) and make them wear hats if exposed to direct sunlight.

Medicine

- Check the regular assumption of medicine
- Seek the advice of the doctor in case of changes of therapy.

At home

- Use curtains as a protection against the sun
- Close shutters and blinds in the hottest hours of the day.
- Reduce the use of cooking stoves and ovens, which can heat up the rooms.
- Never run out of the most important foods (water, fruits and vegetables, pasta).
- If you use fans, do not turn them directly towards the elderly person.

Warning

If the elderly complains about any of these symptoms

- State of mental confusion
- Vertigo and weakness
- Headache
- Breathing difficulties
- Chest pain

Call the family doctor

People with the highest risk are those who suffer from: diabetes, chronic bronchitis, hypertension, psychiatric and heart patients.

Remember to pay attention to the weather forecast on television, radio and newspapers.