



STEP 2: SAMPLE SCREENING SCRIPT



Speak slowly and allow enough time for the person to process and respond to your questions.

Trust your instinct and gut. Honor the group by assuring that the person really is a good fit for support group.

Reminder: This one-on-one screening is between you and the person living with changes in memory and thinking. Invite the care partner to enjoy the next 30-45 minutes on their own while you talk with their loved one.

1 Facilitator

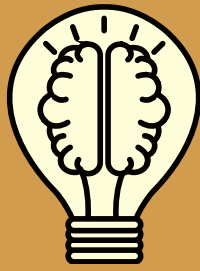
Hi Daniel! My name is Janeli. I spoke with your son last week about a support group he thought you might be interested in learning more about. It's for people living with changes in memory and thinking who want to connect with others, share their experiences/strategies, and how they are finding purpose and meaning in life after the diagnosis.

2 Facilitator

I'd love to tell you about the group and see if it's something you think would be a good fit. I would also like to spend some time getting to know you. Does that sound okay with you?

3 Facilitator

Great! Let's get started. The group I facilitate is for people who are noticing changes in their memory and thinking and who are in the early-stages of the diagnosis. Common changes people mention include difficulty recalling information or changes in communication. The group meets virtually online, once a month for 90 minutes (**leave out superfluous details as that could leave them too overwhelmed**). During the meetings, people share how they are adapting to the changes they are noticing, what's working or not working and offer support to one another. Do you have any questions for me about group?



4 Facilitator

Ok! If any other questions about support group come up, let me know. I'd like to switch gears a bit and now ask you a few questions.

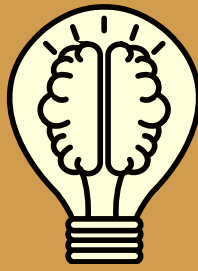
5 Facilitator

I'd love to learn more about you. Can you tell me a little bit about yourself? (sample questions below)

- Where are you from? Where did you grow up?
- Tell me about the work you did, what was your job?
- Tell me about your family, spouse, how did you meet your wife?
- Do you have kids? Are they local? Any grandkids?
- What do you enjoy doing for fun? How do you spend your day?

—————➔ **Important:** Do your best not to stack questions – meaning asking multiple questions at once. The goal is not accuracy of information, but to gauge their ability to stay on track. Do their answers match the questions?

If the person is NOT able to answer the social questions, they likely won't be able to talk about the changes they are noticing, and therefore not a good fit for group.



6 Facilitator

Thank you for telling me about yourself and your life! I'd like to switch gears and talk about changes in memory and thinking, and the support group that we discussed earlier that I facilitate. The group offers a confidential space for persons to talk about these changes. I'm wondering, have you noticed changes in your memory, thinking or communication?

- Tell me more about what you're noticing.
- Have you noticed changes in your ability to remember?
- Sometimes people mention they are experiencing changes with their words. They know what they want to say, but the word just won't come out. Have you noticed that?
- Do you notice memory changes impacting your ability to do familiar tasks? (i.e. reading, driving, etc.)
- Are there things you previously did but now your spouse/partner/adult child (insert their name if you know it.) help you with?

—————➔ **Important:** Do your best not to stack questions – meaning asking multiple questions at one time. The goal is not accuracy of information, but to gauge their ability to stay on track. Do their answers match the questions?

7 Facilitator

Thank you, Daniel, for taking the time to talk with me about the support group that I facilitate for people living with changes in memory and thinking.

- **If Yes:** I think this group would be a helpful space for you to connect with others, learn helpful strategies and know you are not alone. I will follow-up with you and your son regarding next steps. Any questions before I let you go and enjoy the rest of your day?
- **If No:** I will follow-up with your son regarding programs that would be a good fit for you and that you can do together. Any questions before I let you go and enjoy the rest of your day?