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10 Tips for Family Carers

(With web-links to specific tools)

Note: These are US centric web-links and not all content may be relevant for Irish Family Carers.

1. **Seek support** from other caregivers. You are not alone!
2. **Take care** of your own health so that you can be strong enough to take care of your loved one.
3. Accept offers of help and suggest specific things people can do to help you.
4. Learn how to communicate effectively with doctors.
5. Caregiving is hard work so **take respite breaks** often.
6. Watch out for signs of depression and don't delay in getting professional help when you need it.
7. Be open to new technologies that can help you care for your loved one.
8. Organize medical information so it's up to date and easy to find.
9. Make sure legal documents are in order.
10. **Give yourself credit** for doing the best you can in one of the toughest jobs there is!

Source (US Based) <http://caregiveraction.org/resources/ten-tips/>

