

Elder Mediation is based on a wellness and empowerment model – any decisions arising from the mediation are made by the participants themselves, with the active support of the Mediator in exploring possible options and reality-testing all decisions.

Approved MII Mediators have a high standard of training and accreditation. All Mediators in receipt of a current MII Practising Certificate have been subject to skills assessment and are bound by the MII Code of Ethics and Practice (www.themii.ie/code-of-ethics.jsp). They are required to have appropriate professional indemnity insurance in place, to engage in ongoing continuing professional development (CPD) in mediation and are subject to independent regulation.

Elder Mediation
is not therapy,
counselling nor
social work.

Find an MII
approved Mediator at
[www.themii.ie/
find-a-mediator.js](http://www.themii.ie/find-a-mediator.js)

HOW DO I FIND THE RIGHT MEDIATOR?

For a listing of available MII accredited Mediators and access to their profiles, go to *Find a Mediator* on the MII web site at www.themii.ie. You may search by location, name, speciality (e.g. Commercial, Family, etc.), or key word (e.g. Elder Mediation; Separating Couple; Healthcare etc.). Each profile outlines the Mediator's specific qualifications, training and experience so that you can choose the Mediator most suited to your situation. If you have any queries or require further information please contact The Mediators' Institute of Ireland.

THE MEDIATORS' INSTITUTE OF IRELAND

The Mediators' Institute of Ireland (The MII) is the professional institute for Mediators in Ireland and accredits Mediators and mediation training.

Established in 1992, the mission of the MII is to promote the use of quality mediation by ensuring the highest standards of education, training and professional practice.

The MII is a not-for-profit organisation.

Registered Charity CHY16996.



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The Mediators' Institute of Ireland

THE PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR MEDIATORS



ELDER MEDIATION

PROMOTING A
PERSON-CENTRED
APPROACH TO AGEING



WHAT IS ELDER MEDIATION?

Ageing is a natural process that can present interpersonal, physical, legal, financial and emotional challenges for individuals and their families. Elder Mediation can help by offering a framework for the older person and their families to have discussions and to make informed decisions about their care and their future with the help of a trained professional.

In Elder Mediation, the Mediator supports individuals and their families in having important conversations and in making decisions that reflect the needs of all, but with an emphasis on the quality of life of the older person. Elder Mediation puts the older person at the centre of the dialogue so that any decisions that are made are based, not just on the needs of the older person, but also their values and personal preferences.

Elder Mediation is a collaborative process that can include key personnel, for example, hospital staff, nursing home or care representatives, in addressing the challenges and changes that can arise for older people and their families.

Elder Mediation is a distinct process to enhance quality of life, and an important step in the continuum of care for older people.

HOW DOES IT WORK?

In Elder Mediation, the Mediator provides a process and framework that supports the older person, their family, and where appropriate, key people such as care providers and healthcare experts, to address specific issues and concerns.

The Mediator actively supports the participants in exploring issues and concerns in a safe and confidential environment. The Mediator helps the participants to engage constructively, grounding the conversations in the personal needs of the individual family members and, in particular, the needs of the older person. Decisions emerge, sometimes in surprising new forms, from the creative engagement of those present.

As with other forms of mediation, Elder Mediation is based on self-determination and consensus: the Mediator provides the structure and actively supports the participants in engaging in difficult conversations and exploring possible options for addressing their specific concerns and issues.



TYPE OF SITUATIONS SUITABLE FOR ELDER MEDIATION

Elder Mediation provides a flexible framework that can be adapted to suit the unique requirements of each situation. It is equally effective as a preventative measure – to promote and enhance continued quality of life for the older person and their family – and as a remedial intervention, to address issues that are impacting on the older person and/or family members.

In Elder Mediation the focus is on addressing concerns and issues in a respectful and inclusive way. Areas for discussion may include:

- **Housing and living arrangements**
- **Continuing care and long-term care**
- **Retirement**
- **Healthcare planning**
- **Safety**
- **Financial management and consumer issues**
- **Estate planning and probate**
- **New marriages and step-family**
- **Guardianship and Powers of Attorney**
- **Relationship concerns**
- **End of life decisions**
- **Social and community activities**

WHAT ARE THE SAFEGUARDS?

Elder Mediation is conducted in a safe and confidential environment. Where expert advice is required, for example in relation to health, legal or financial matters, expert information or appropriate experts can be brought into the process.