

FAST FACTS: Non-Drug Treatment: Relaxation

Relaxation is being free from anxiety and muscle tension.

✓ Benefits of Relaxation:

- Relives pain by:
 - Loosening tense muscles
 - Distracting individual from pain and symptoms
 - Decreasing stress
 - Helping to cope

✓ Relaxation Techniques:

- Deep breathing
- Listening to music
- Thinking of peaceful images
- Repeating the same word or phrase over and over
- Meditation

✓ What Else You Should Do

- Write down and share information about your family member's pain with their healthcare provider
- Use a [Pain Diary](#) to note important information useful to the healthcare provider
- Encourage your family member to try a non-drug treatment and document the impact on their pain in their Pain Diary



Reference:

1. Adapted from: Fouladbakhsh, J.M., et al., Nondrug therapies for pain management among rural older adults. *Pain Manag Nurs*, 2011. 12(2): p. 70-81. 2. The Nursing Home Pain Management Algorithm Clinical Trial, R01 NR009100, 7/1/05 – 4/30/10; Mary Ersek (PI) Used with permission of Mary Ersek and HPNA (2009).
2. WebMD. October 13, 2020. *Stress Relaxation and Natural Pain Relief*. Accessed 2.21.2022. <https://www.webmd.com/pain-management/guide/stress-relief-for-pain>

Revised January 2022