

WOODSON CENTER FOR ADULT HEALTHCARE

.....*when you've outgrown the kid stuff*

Excerpts from "The Physician User's Manual" chapter in Dr. Woodson's Book, To Survive Caregiving.

When you need the plumber, do you yell down the drain? When you want to talk to your attorney, do you wait outside the courtroom, or leave a message with the bailiff? No. You make an appointment. So, when you want to talk to the doctor, don't wait in your loved one's hospital or nursing facility room and don't leave messages with facility nurses. **Call the doctor's office.**

Tell the doctor's staff exactly what you need.

Most doctors set up protocols to make it easier to serve you. These protocols allow the doctor's staff to handle some things themselves, or to get urgent concerns directly to the doctor for immediate action. The general "I want to talk to the doctor" messages usually take a back seat to specific questions. Find out who does what your doctor's office.