Nursing Homes vs. Assisted Living: What Are the Differences?

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Howard S. Krooks was quoted in a *U.S. News & World Report* article discussing the differences between nursing homes and assisted living facilities. Assisted living facilities are long-term care options for seniors who may need assistance with certain non-medical aspects of daily life. Nursing homes are typically a better fit for those with advanced needs and provide a higher level of daily care.

One of the key differences between assisted living and nursing homes is the cost. Due to the need for increased care, the cost for nursing home residents is usually higher – and can get expensive. "I have found over the last 10 to 20 years that fewer people are able to afford that level of care," said Howard, who is an elder law attorney practicing in Florida, New York, and Pennsylvania. While nursing homes are the best fit for many, the choice to move a loved one to either facility is an important one that should be made with the senior, their family, and their medical team.

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