



Guidelines for Researchers Engaging the Bureau of Sages

CJE SeniorLife has two research advisory boards made up of older adults who have received training on basic research concepts:

- The Lieberman Community Bureau of Sages is made up of nursing home residents.
- The Virtual Senior Center Bureau of Sages is made up of older adults receiving long term supportive services in their homes.

Sages serve as experiential advisors to researchers in the field of aging and patient-centered outcomes research. They provide their voice to the direction, design, implementation, and dissemination of research.

To gain meaningful feedback from Sages, the Bureau expects facilitators and researchers to work together to actively engage members and facilitate discussion. Researchers and other professionals who participate in meetings with Sages should be prepared to accommodate older adult learners, including those with sensory limitations. The Bureau requires researchers to use the following tools to maximize the value of engaging with Sages:

1. Bureau of Sages Research Stakeholder Biosketch (submit before the meeting)
2. Tips for Communicating with Older Adults
3. Guidelines for Advisory Board Meetings
4. A brief, accessible presentation format (sample PowerPoint templates can be provided)
5. Bureau of Sages Review Criteria (select a few criteria relevant to your study)

We recommend that the following guidelines for research presentations:

- Presentations should be no more than 15-20 minutes in length.
- During the presentation, check in with Sages on their understanding of key concepts and terms or to give them opportunities to ask questions.
- The bulk of the hour long meeting should be devoted to discussion, questions and comments.
- A volunteer or CJE staff member assists with facilitating discussion and supports Sages in expressing their experiences and views.
- For virtual presentations, designate an extra person to assist with online facilitation and troubleshooting potential technical issues.