

David Sánchez Caregiving Situation

Consider this exemplar of David Sánchez's caregiving situation:

David Sánchez is a 26-year-old who lives with his mother and grandfather. He has been working at a local grocery store since high school and attending community college part time for the last two years. He loves animals and wants to become a veterinarian, but lately he has been having difficulty attaining the grades he needs to make this happen. He just can't find the time to focus on his studies. Further, he has lost touch with all of his friends.

David's grandfather was diagnosed with Parkinson's disease eight years ago and has been hospitalized after a fall. During this hospital stay he was diagnosed with Mild Cognitive Impairment (MCI). His mother's full-time work is the primary income source for the family, and they have no family living in their state. While his mother is the primary caregiver for his grandfather, the responsibility is taken up by David when she is not available. However, David does not consider himself a caregiver. Upon discharge, David and his mother are concerned about their ability to manage all of the grandfather's doctor appointments.