

Medication Management Reduces Risk of Errors

October 2014



Medications are a vital part of treatment if prescribed and taken correctly. According to the American Medical Association, the highest incidents of medication errors occur during both prescribing and administering (JAMA, 1995). The risk increases for individuals who have multiple doctors and complex health conditions.

Avoid prescribing errors: Keep a current medication list, include supplements, vitamins and over the counter medications. Update the list with new doses, allergies and sensitivities. Take the list to all medical appointments and review with each physician. Use one pharmacy to prevent taking medications with similar properties or that may interact with each other. Take medications safely: Know the medication being taken and the reason for taking it. Follow the instructions for each medication. Understand the warnings associated with each medication. There may be possible drug interactions and foods/drinks to avoid. Properly store medications and dispose of any that are expired or discontinued. Take medications at the same time each day. Use a pill box to ensure medications are being taken as directed and that no dose is missed.

Contact Us

Stowell Associates provides assistance with medication management and administration through our care-managed home care services. Contact us today if you or someone you know needs help with medications. For additional information, consider these resources: <u>Medication Errors : Cut your risk</u> <u>with these tips</u> and <u>Medication Errors a Big</u> Problem After Hospital Discharge.

Since 1983 improving the quality of the day to day lives of our clients and their families in ways both small and large. Nationally Accredited by the Joint Commission. Locally owned by professional social workers who are leaders locally and nationally. Recognized as a Top Workplace 2011-2014 receiving Best in Class and a Special Leadership Award (2011), a Training Award (2012) and Best in Class and a Special Management Award (2014). Torch Award recipient for Business Ethics and Integrity from the Wisconsin Better Business Bureau (2004).

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