Medication Management Made Easy

Introducing MedPax

by Medicine Man Pharmacy



Many of us take important, life-saving medications that, when taken regularly as prescribed, can significantly improve our health and help avoid unnecessary hospital stays and huge associated expenses. As we get more medications that we must take, often multiple times daily, it becomes complicated quickly and our ability to keep up with a complicated

daily regimen day in and day out

starts to decline. This is known as *poor medication adherence* and has become a huge problem for health care. Over 20% of hospital admissions are due to people not taking their prescribed medications properly, resulting in a multi-billion dollar problem. People are burdened with multiple trips to the pharmacy because their medications come due for refills at different times of the month. Often some prescriptions are not refillable requiring calls to the prescriber and return trips to the pharmacy. When people don't take their medications correctly the medications can't work properly so the prescriber may order additional medication to treat the condition, not realizing the real reason the first medication was not working is because it wasn't being taken as prescribed.

Here's the good news: an <u>efficient low cost solution</u> to this problem is available when you have your prescriptions filled at **Medicine Man Prairie Pharmacy in Hayden or Medicine Man West Pharmacy in Post Falls** (2 of the 9 Medicine Man Pharmacies in North Idaho) where they have invested in a new technology and service called *MedPax*.

All you need to do is tell the pharmacist you want this service. That's it! They do the rest -- get all your current prescriptions from your current source, and verify and renew all medication refills with your prescriber. They consult with you to be sure your medications are set up the way you have been told to take them and establish the best start day for your MedPax. All medications are reviewed for duplications and unnecessary or high risk medications. Prescriptions are synchronize to be fillable and billable at the same time. Your medications are packaged by day and time of day in easy to open, clear plastic packs with the date, day, and time of day for the dose printed on the package.

The packages are connected together in a long strip inside a MedPax box. Gently pull the strip from the box far enough to separate the first dose pack from the strip. Read the date, day and times of day printed on the package and verify you have the correct dose to be taken. This step is critical to the success of this packaging and service. This helps keep you on track and quickly signals you if you missed the previous dose. If you did miss a dose – separate it from the strip, set aside, pull the correct dose from the box and get yourself back on track. Paying attention to this important detail will keep you on track and you will find you miss few, if any doses.

All this for just \$2.50 a week and delivery is free! What a bargain!

Look at the advantages of the MedPax system

- It requires less work on the part of the caregiver or the patient, as the MedPax are clearly marked with the date, day and time of day the packaged medications are to be taken by the patient. Each individual package is also labeled with all the information that is required to be on a prescription label in addition to expiration dates, lot numbers and product descriptions.
- Medication regimens are studied and reviewed by a pharmacist on setup for problems, errors, drug interactions, savings opportunities and much more. They are subsequently reviewed on a monthly basis before filling and packaging.
- The patient or their caregiver will spend a lot less time every month organizing medications into pillboxes or whatever (if anything) they have been doing before, freeing up their time and giving back some independence from complicated multiple medications and dosage regimens.
- 4. MedPax makes it easier for patients to know when to take their next dose and manage multiple medications with ease, ensuring that patients take medications as prescribed, stay healthy, and avoid unnecessary hospital stays and costs related to improper prescription medication usage.
- 5. With dosages and medication regimens examined and arranged by pharmacists, an integral part of the system, there is a better assurance that medications will be taken at the right time and in the right combinations.



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