

This program is designed for educational purposes only and is not a substitute for professional care. The information provided should not be used for diagnosing or treatment of a medical problem.

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The background features a large orange triangle pointing towards the top right, and a blue triangle pointing towards the bottom left. These two triangles overlap, creating a white triangular area in the center where the text is located.

ASSISTING WITH MEDICATION

CAREGIVER'S RESPONSIBILITIES

- Medication reminding
- Stay with the person until she or he has taken the medications
- Record when you assisted and that medications were taken successfully



CAREGIVER'S RESPONSIBILITIES

- Reading medication labels for clients
- Make a full list of medications including: name of medication, dosage, time of day to be taken
- You can hand the client a glass of milk



CAREGIVER CANNOT...

- Put the medications into the medications organizer
- Take the medications out of the medications organizer
- Physically hand a medication to a client



CAREGIVER CANNOT...

- Distribute medications in the medication dispenser
- In order to safely administer medication, you must be a licensed professional (RN):
 - Dose, frequency, interactions, side effects

***AUTOMATIC
PILL DISPENSER***



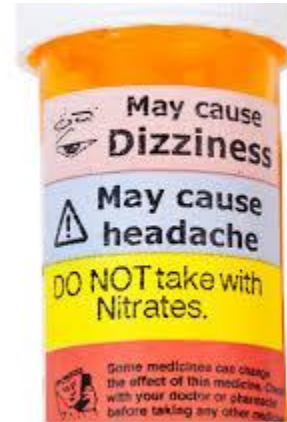
Five Rights of Administration

- Right patient
- Right medication
- Right dosage
- Right route
- Right time



MEDICATION CHALLENGES

- Side effects
- Medication-medication interactions
- Food-medication interactions
- Forgetting to take medication due to amount of medications



MEDICATION RISKS

- Accidental poisoning
- Overdose
- Confusion – safety



ADVERSE REACTIONS INCLUDE

- DIFFICULTY CONCENTRATING
- LOSS OF HEARING OR RINGING IN THE EARS
- BLURRED OR DOUBLE VISION



The Medication Management Checklist

Medication Management Record: Maureen Jones															
Drug, Dose, Time, Route, Date started, Date ended, Special Instructions	Sunday 9/6/2009	Initials	Monday 9/7/2009	Initials	Tuesday 9/8/2009	Initials	Wednesday 9/9/2009	Initials	Thursday 9/10/2009	Initials	Friday 9/11/2009	Initials	Saturday 9/12/2009	Initials	Side Effects/Problems
Colace one tab AM PM (bedtime) (for constipation) *Do not give if diarrhea.	10am 11pm	M V M V	10am 11pm	HR HR	10am 11pm	HR HR	10am 11pm	EM EM	10am 11pm	HR HR	10am 11pm	EM M V	10am 11pm	M V M V	9/9 - held due to diarrhea EM
Digoxin 0.25mg (one tab) Daily 10am (for abnormal heart rhythm) * Do not give if pulse is less than 60	10am (p = 68)	M V	10am (p = 64)	HR	10am (p = 62)	HR	10am (p = 58)	EM	10am (p = 58)	EM	10am (p = 58)	M V	10am (p = 58)	M V	9/12 - held, pulse 58 called doctor. M V
Potassium one tsp Daily 10am (for potassium deficiency) *Give with Orange Juice	10am	M V	10am	HR	10am	HR	10am	EM	10am	EM	10am	M V	10am	M V	
Ampicillin 500mg four times a day 10 - 2 - 6 - 10 (for infection) *Discontinue 9/15/2009	10am 2pm 6pm 10pm	M V M V M V M V	10am 2pm 6pm 10pm	HR HR HR HR	10am 2pm 6pm 10pm	HR HR HR HR	10am 2pm 6pm 10pm	EM EM EM EM	10am 2pm 6pm 10pm	EM EM M V M V	10am 2pm 6pm 10pm	M V M V M V M V	10am 2pm 6pm 10pm	M V M V M V M V	4/9 Complained of nausea, called doctor. Medication discontinued 4/12/09. M V
Tylenol 2 tabs (for fever greater than 101 degrees - orally) *Call doctor if no change															

R_x Acme Pharm

503-555-9872

RX#1234568

Maureen Jones

Digoxin 0.25 mg

Take one tablet da

3 Refills Date:



Make sure you have the right drug

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Medication Management Record: Maureen Jones															
Drug, Dose, Time, Route, Date started, Date ended, Special Instructions	Sunday 9/6/2009		Monday 9/7/2009		Tuesday 9/8/2009		Wednesday 9/9/2009		Thursday 9/10/2009		Friday 9/11/2009		Saturday 9/12/2009		Side Effects/Problems
	Initials		Initials		Initials		Initials		Initials		Initials		Initials		
Colace one tab AM PM (bedtime) (for constipation) *Do not give if diarrhea.	10am	MV	10am	HR	10am	HR	10am	EM	10am	HR	10am	EM	10am	MV	9/9 - held due to diarrhea EM
	11pm	MV	11pm	HR	11pm	HR	11pm	EM	11pm	HR	11pm	MV	11pm	MV	
Digoxin 0.25mg (one tab) Daily 10am (for abnormal heart rhythm) * Do not give if pulse is less than 60	10am	MV	10am	HR							10am	EM	10am	MV	9/12 - held, pulse 58 called doctor. MV
(p = 68)			(p = 64)								(p = 62)		(p = 58)		
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	2pm	MV	2pm	HR							2pm	EM	2pm	MV	
	6pm	MV	6pm	HR							6pm	MV	6pm	MV	
	10pm	MV	10pm	HR							10pm	MV	10pm	MV	
Tylenol 2 tabs (for fever greater than 101 degrees - orally) *Call doctor if no change															



Make sure you have the right dose

Methods for Various Routes of Medication



Managing medications and providing medication support is one of the most important functions of your job as a caregiver.

YOU MUST REPORT WHEN

- Your client refuses to take medications or takes them at the wrong time
- Your client is unable to take medications him or herself
- Your client takes medications too often or not often enough



REMEMBER

- *The client is responsible to take his or her own medications including eye and eardrops, nasal sprays or ointment.
- *Older adults use more prescription and over-the-counter medications than any other age group.
- *A side effect is an unusual, unexpected response to medications.




REMEMBER

- *Some foods slow or increase absorption of a medication.
- *Do not assume that depression, fatigue, confusion or weakness in an elderly person is a natural part of aging. It may be an adverse reaction to medication.
- *Medications can NOT be stored in warm, dry place.



REMEMBER

- *Some adverse reactions such as depression, confusion or forgetfulness may take weeks and months to develop.
 - *You are not allowed to open the properly labeled container if the client is physically unable to open it.
 - *Used needles should be disposed of in a puncture-proof, leak proof appropriately marked container.
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REMEMBER

- *NEVER recap needles before placing them in the container.
- *The more medications a person takes, the more chance there is of onset of senility.
- *Taking multiple prescription drugs is Increases the risk for diabetes.



THE END