

Thrive Tip

Questions to ask about new or changed medications

Medication errors are one of the leading causes of hospitalizations or readmissions.

When you are living with dementia, or really anytime, it is best to have your care partner with you to hear the instructions for new medications and discharge plans.

Physician's Visit:

1. How should the medication be taken?
2. Are there any possible side effects?
3. Should the medication be taken with food or foods to avoid?
4. Can the medication be crushed and/or added to food for easier swallowing?
5. Will the medication interact with my current medications?
6. Will a generic form work?
7. What should I do if I miss a dose?

Hospital Discharge:

← In addition to all of the questions for the physician's visit:

1. When is the next dose due?
2. Compare all medications that are prescribed at discharge to the medications I was taking prior to hospitalization – any omissions or duplications?
3. Will herbal supplements impact the medication?

****Don't forget how valuable your pharmacist is to your Thrive network!**