HomeMeds gives you proven solutions in four important problem areas affecting seniors:

1. Unnecessary therapeutic duplication
2. Falls and confusion related to possible inappropriate psychoactive medication use
3. Cardiovascular problems such as continued high/low blood pressure or low pulse
4. Inappropriate use of non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) in those with high risk of peptic ulcer/gastrointestinal bleeding

How HomeMeds works

HomeMeds is an evidence-based intervention that includes a computerized risk assessment and alert process. After identifying a client with potential problems, a pharmacist reviews the data for the appropriateness of the client's current medications. Next, the pharmacist determines which problems warrant re-evaluation by prescribers, and follows through with the client/family and prescribers to resolve identified problems. This intervention is especially adaptable for community-based health care and aging services agencies.

Workflow

- Comprehensive in-home medication assessment
- Computer file created and data verified
- Pharmacist notified of potential problem alert
- Pharmacist sends med list & recommendation to MD; intervention is documented
- Tracking of status and MD response
- Changes to meds & conditions are documented and alerts are resolved
- Pharmacist advises patient and/or staff, if needed

HomeMeds addresses issues important to health care providers and payers

- Facilitates medication reconciliation after hospitalization
- Fits well with care transition coaching
- Identifies adherence problems
- Pairs well with medication management interventions such as dispensers and reminder systems
- Estimated return on investment similar to medication therapy management (4:1 or better) by decreasing adverse drug events such as falls and gastrointestinal bleeding
- Helps with Medicare Advantage Star quality ratings: annual review of medications, adherence to medications for chronic illnesses, reducing risks for falls and hospital readmissions, reducing use of high-risk medications
- Helps maximize HEDIS quality measures for physicians: reducing use of high-risk medications, fall prevention, and drug-disease interactions

Medication related problems can often go unidentified and result in increased ED visits, hospitalizations or worse. Nearly 50% of elders receiving home and community based services were found to report inappropriate medication use.
Recognition

- HomeMeds™ is an approved Disease Prevention and Health Promotion program.
- Included in the National Registry for Evidence-based Programs and Practices (www.nrepp.samhsa.gov).
- The HomeMeds™ system has been implemented in over 45 sites and 18 states.
- In the past four years, 11,000+ older adults have had their medications screened for potential risks; 40-50% of those screened had potential problems, the majority of which were resolved through pharmacist collaboration with physicians, patients, families and care managers.
- Successfully implemented in area agencies on aging, post-acute care transitions programs, home-delivered meals programs, fall prevention collaboratives, care management programs, housing and assisted living.

Getting Started

- HomeMeds™ works with other evidence-based programs that address patient self-care and self-management or caregiver support.
- Agencies arrange for pharmacist (or geriatric nurse practitioner) to review and respond to potential medication problems identified by the screening.
- Creative solutions such as using pharmacy students or the client/patient’s Part D Plan medication therapy management service can mitigate costs. In California, Partners in Care’s pharmacists can provide online medication review and phone/fax follow-up services.
- Partners in Care trains staff and assists with implementation planning. Affordable fee for planning and training, setup, technical assistance and the license to use the online medication risk assessment software. For an additional setup fee, the software can be integrated with other web-based information systems and electronic health records (EMRs).
- Special arrangements can be made for shared training and statewide or regional licensing.

Visit: www.HomeMeds.org
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Sources:

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