



Pharmacy Education and Research Opportunities for Maine's Safe Medicine Disposal Program

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Medication Adherence

- Critical Issue
- Patients Not 100% Compliant
- Tremendous Cost

Measuring Adherence

- Self-reports
 - Surveys
 - Diaries
 - Medication Calendars
- Refill Records
 - Pharmacies
 - Insurance Claims

Measuring Adherence

- Direct Measures
 - Analysis of medication or metabolite in the body.
- Indirect Measures
 - Health Outcomes
 - Blood Pressure
 - A1C
 - Cholesterol

Measuring Adherence

- Pill Counts
 - In-home
 - Brown-bag

Safe Medication Disposal Program

- A New Approach to Measuring Adherence
- Population-based vs. Small Sample
- All Medications
- Drug Utilization Review

Drug Utilization Review

- Dosing
- Frequency
- Amount Prescribed
- Refills

Drug Utilization Review

- Antibiotics
- Antidepressants
- Antihypertensives

Medications of Interest

- High Abuse Potential
 - OxyContin/Vicodin
 - Benzodiazepines
 - Ritalin
- Highly Toxic or Environmentally Damaging
 - Antibiotics
 - Hormones
 - Antineoplasitcs

Potential Study Limitations

- Discontinuation of medication may be on prescribers orders.
- Prescription snapshot.
- Medication may not be returned in original container.
- Intelligent noncompliance.

Educational Opportunities

- Faculty
 - Teaching
 - Scholarship
- Students
 - Learning opportunities

Educational Opportunities

- Patients –
 - Problems Identified
 - Educational Programs Developed
- Prescribers – evidence-based education
- Policy-Makers