

Medication Safety Once You Leave the Hospital

Be sure to:

- Bring your medication list or medication vials every time you go to the **hospital** or to a **medical appointment** (ask your doctor which he or she would prefer).
- Keep your medication list **up to date**.
- Show your medication list to your healthcare team, even if they don't ask.
- Carry your list with you. Keep it in your purse or wallet, or put it in a baggie and hang it on your fridge.
- Tell your family or caregiver about your list and where to find it.
- After every appointment or hospital visit, make sure you get your list back from your healthcare team.

Spanish-language assistance
is available upon request.



HealthAlliance Hospital

A member of the Westchester Medical Center Health Network (WMCHealth)

To schedule an appointment please call,
845-334-HAHV (4248) or 1-877-418-HAHV

hahv.org

Medication Reconciliation



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Medication Reconciliation Can Prevent Adverse Drug Events

HealthAlliance Hospital, a member of the Westchester Medical Center Health Network (WMCHHealth), knows medication reconciliation is important.

Some 40 percent of hospital medication errors occur because clinical staff didn't know what medicines a patient took. Around 16 percent of these errors could cause patient harm.

Medication reconciliation can greatly reduce errors.

It involves listing your medicines and sharing this information — including the drug name, dose, frequency and how you take it — with your medical provider. The provider will compare this information with any medication orders and resolve any discrepancies.

It is important to tell your provider or healthcare team about all your medications, including:

- Prescription drugs
- Over-the-counter medications (i.e. aspirin, Tylenol)
- Herbal and natural health products
- Alcoholic beverages, marijuana or any other recreational drugs

The information you provide will be used to:

- Improve your quality of care.
- Ensure you get the correct medications during your hospital stay.
- Prevent errors and adverse drug reactions from incorrect medication information.

Medication Reconciliation: Your Role

- Make sure to ask your doctor if he or she prefers you to bring your updated medication list or all your medication vials to your next appointment.
- Ask your doctor, nurse or pharmacist about the management of your home medications while in the hospital.
- Tell your nurse if you think you missed a dose of a home medication.
- Consult one of your healthcare providers before taking any medications that you brought from home (including over-the-counter medications and herbal health products).
- Before you leave the hospital, make sure you understand why and how to take all new medications you started while in hospital.
- Use one pharmacy — this ensures one pharmacy has all your medication information.

Visits to the hospital are often unexpected, so complete your card today!



Date: _____ Name: _____
 Address: _____
 Date of Birth: _____ Allergies: _____
 Doctor and Phone #: _____
 Pharmacy and Phone #: _____

Drug Name, Dose, Frequency and How You Take It	Reason for Medication	Date Started

Immunizations	Date Received
Flu shot	
Pneumonia shot	
Tetanus	

Healthcare proxy Yes No
 Name of agent who can make healthcare decisions on your behalf
