



Sanford Center
for Aging

University of Nevada, Reno

Medication Therapy Management

*Funded by the Nevada Division
for Aging Services*

*Sanford
Center for Aging*



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What we know...

- **Medication errors harm an estimated 1.5 million Americans each year**
- **30% elder hospitalizations due to preventable medication-related problems**
- **Seniors:**
 - Consume the most medications
 - May have multiple chronic health conditions
 - See more than one physician
 - Have Rx's filled at multiple pharmacies
 - May be reluctant to question physician about the medications
 - No one managing their medications or reviewing entire drug regime



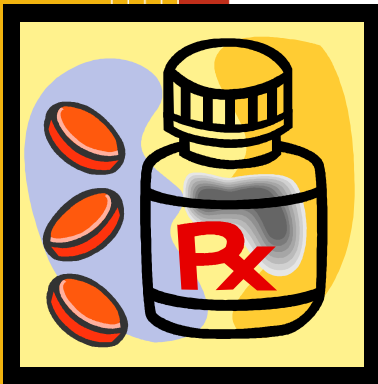


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Where we've been...

- **Pilot research project initiated September 2001**
- **Formation of Project Advisory Committee (PAC):**
 - Geriatricians
 - Certified geriatric pharmacists
 - Nevada Medical Association members
 - Nevada State Board of Pharmacy
 - Senior Rx program representatives
 - Legislative Council Bureau
 - Nevada Division for Aging Services





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Where we are...

- **Seniors 60 and older**
- **Free clinical assessment:**
 - Prescription medications
 - Over-the-counter medicines
 - Vitamins
 - Herbal Supplements
 - Other Nutraceuticals
- **Certified Geriatric Pharmacist:**
 - Inappropriate drugs (Beers List)
 - Duplications
 - Adverse drug interactions
 - Dosage, administration, cost
 - Side effects and health concerns
 - Recommends changes





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Where we are...

- **2003-2004**
 - Reduced # Rx's to 5
- **2004-2005**
 - Added nurse case management
 - Verifies client information
 - Reviews assessment / recommendations with applicant and physician
 - Follows-up with applicant to determine behavior changes
- **2005-2006 Results**
 - 79% Rx / Rx interactions
 - 32% Rx / OTC interactions
 - 15% duplications
 - 40% inappropriate medications for elders





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Where we're going...

- **Medication Therapy Management (2006-2007)**
 - Program Evaluation
- **Senior Rx – Catalyst**
 - Considering adding medication therapy management benefit
- **Hospital Discharge Planners**
 - Review medications upon discharge with those already at home





What we need...

Education

- Geriatrics taught in schools of pharmacy
 - Nevada: 8 certified geriatric pharmacists
 - Incorporation of medication review into standard of care
 - Pharmacist as team member

Public Policy

- Changes in reimbursement system to cover medication management
 - not just prescriptions

