

# Medication errors are common and costly



*“I have so many medications that I can’t seem to remember which ones to take when—and I don’t want to end up in the hospital.”*

## The high toll of medication mistakes

You rely on your medications to keep you healthy. But complex medication schedules can lead to mistakes: missing doses, taking incorrect amounts, or taking pills at the wrong time. These mistakes could lead to unnecessary doctor or hospital visits, illness, or even death.

- For seniors, approximately 1 out of 10 hospital admissions are the result of incorrect use of medications.<sup>1</sup>
- Not taking medications correctly can have serious consequences, including increased discomfort, inadequate disease prevention and possibly even death.<sup>2</sup>

Reduce the risk of medication mistakes.

The Philips Medication Dispensing Service helps you:

- Take medications at pre-programmed times, from convenient pre-filled dosage cups
- Reduce risk of unplanned hospital or doctor visits related to incorrect medication use
- Remain living independently at home



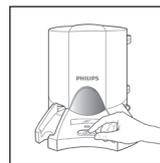
## How it works

### 1. Load



You or a caregiver put medications into individual cups and load them into the dispenser. Philips Lifeline will help with scheduling dose times.

### 2. Dispense



Press the button when you hear the reminder. The medication that you or your caregiver have loaded, will dispense at the preprogrammed times.

### 3. Alert



If a dose is missed, the dispenser can contact family and caregivers by phone. They can check on you to make sure you’re getting your medications.

Discover how the Philips Medication Dispensing Service can help reduce the risk of medication errors. Call us today!

## Philips Lifeline: a name you can count on

For more than 35 years, Philips Lifeline has been providing healthcare solutions that help patients maintain independent living. Our trusted medical alert service, which offers 24 hour personal response, helps to keep seniors living in their own homes with confidence. If you or someone you know could benefit from the services Philips Lifeline provides, call us today!

For more information, call:

**1-800-LIFELINE**  
**(1-800-543-3546)**

For Government Funded Referrals, please call: 1-800-368-2925

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1. C. Nananda, J.P. Fanale, P. Kronholm, “The Role of Medication Non-Compliance and Adverse Drug Reactions in Hospitalizations of the Elderly,” Archives of Internal Medicine, 150 (1990):841-845.
2. Durso, S.C., M.D., “Technological Advances for Improving Medication Adherence in the Elderly,” Annals of Long Term Care, 9 (4), (2001): 43-48. Originally from Gandhi TK, Burstin HR, Cook, Drug Complications in outpatients. J. Gen Intern Med 2000., and Prescription medication compliance: A review of the baseline of knowledge, (NCPIEI, 1995)



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# The stakes are high for medication mistakes



# Is it time for a better way to manage your medications?

Use this self-assessment as a guide to determine if a medication management service is right for you.

Questions (Check the box if your answer is "Yes")	YES
1. Are you taking three or more medications each day?	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Do you take medicine two or more times per day?	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. In the past month, have you missed medications because you forgot to take them?	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Do you have a chronic condition or disease, such as: heart disease, COPD, osteoporosis, diabetes, or cancer?	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Do you require assistance with daily activities, such as taking medication, bathing, dressing, or cooking?	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Would a highly reliable service for dispensing medications accurately and on time provide peace of mind for you or your loved ones?	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Is it important for you to continue living independently in your current home?	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Do you have concerns about complications that could lead to hospitalizations if you don't take your medicine correctly?	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. Are your daily activities restricted by your medication regimen?	<input type="checkbox"/>
See the chart at the right to review the assessment for your score.	<b>Total checks</b> <input type="checkbox"/>

**6 – 9 YES answers**

This high score indicates that you may be at serious risk for medication mistakes and resulting complications.

**3 – 5 YES answers**

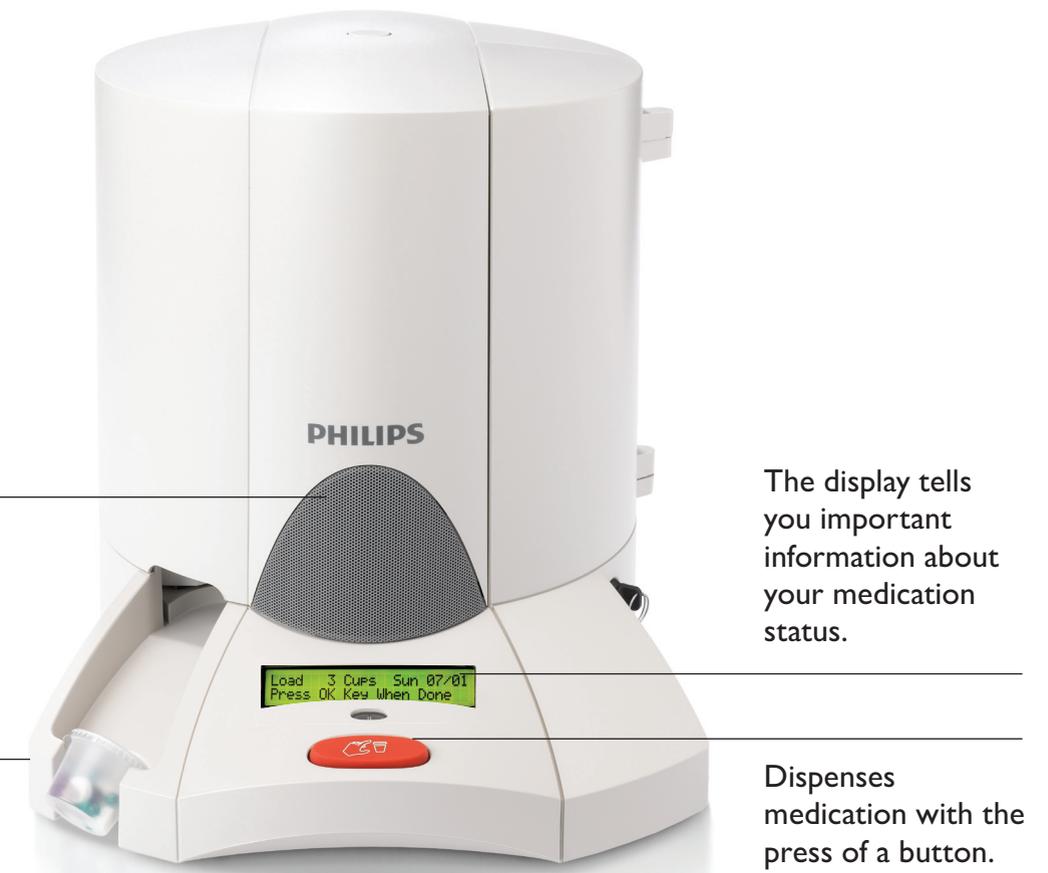
You could be at some risk for medication mistakes and resulting complications.

**1 – 2 YES answers**

Ask yourself two important questions:

1. If I don't take my medicine correctly, am I at risk for further complications?
2. If I don't take my medicine correctly, am I at risk of having to leave my home so that someone can help me take them?

If the answer is "yes" to any of these questions, it might be a good idea to discuss an automated medication management service with your family and healthcare provider.



When it's time for medications, the dispenser provides audible reminders.

Medication is dispensed in easy-to-handle cups, so there's no struggle with pill bottles.

The display tells you important information about your medication status.

Dispenses medication with the press of a button.

## The Philips Medication Dispensing Service can help

### Reduce the risk of medication errors with Philips Lifeline

Healthcare professionals trust Philips Lifeline to help their patients continue to live independently at home. Now with the Philips Medication Dispensing Service, pre-loaded medications dispense at the times you've scheduled. This helps reduce complications from incorrect medication use.

### As easy as pressing a button

An audible reminder and flashing light indicate it's time for medicine. Just the press of a button dispenses medications in an easy-to-handle plastic cup. It's that simple!

### Peace of mind

With Philips Lifeline, caregivers can have peace of mind. That's because caregivers can be alerted by phone if a dose is missed. So even when a caregiver can't be there, they can still feel confident their loved ones are adhering to medication regimens.

Please discuss this questionnaire with your healthcare provider for additional guidance on whether an automated medication management service is right for you. This self-assessment is not a diagnostic test or medical advice.