

CLINICAL TIP OF THE MONTH

The timing of medication administration sometimes depends on whether a patient has an empty or full stomach. Certain medications can cause stomach upset, which may be lessened if a patient eats before taking the med. Some medications may be absorbed better on a full stomach, while others' absorption is maximized on an empty stomach. Particular food products can also interact with certain medications' metabolism, either increasing

their levels (making toxicity more likely) or reducing their levels (making the med less effective). Supplements containing calcium, iron, magnesium, and aluminum can bind to certain medications, which reduces their absorption, making them less effective. If you have any questions regarding medication pass times and potential drug-food interactions, please call your pharmacist!

FEATURED HOME

Homefront Assisted Living, Inc is committed to providing a warm, safe, homelike environment. Their focus is wellness and all residents are treated with respect and dignity. They have two comfortable, charming and spacious homes with one-level living for convenience, safety and accessibility.

Services:

- Medication Management
- Hygiene and grooming
- Escort to medical appointments
- Scheduled RN visits
- Regular pastoral visits
- Assistance in scheduling medical appointments
- On-site professional salon services as well as laundry facilities
- Community room available



Homefront Assisted Living Inc.

COMMUNICATION IS KEY!

At MedSave we work hard to minimize costs for your clients whenever possible. It may be as simple as subbing a generic medication for a brand name, a more involved therapeutic change, or even repacking to use up old meds when there is a dose change.

On a national level, waste of prescription medications is a huge problem in assisted living facilities and a burden for the healthcare system as a whole. Depending on the type of facility and/or packing system, Minnesota state law says that a product cannot be returned for credit or be reused in any way once it leaves the pharmacy. Those meds must be destroyed (contact your pharmacy for more info). To help us eliminate waste as much as possible, we are asking for your help in the following ways:

- Communicate all medication changes to the pharmacy
- Communicate all discontinue orders to the pharmacy
- Communicate any changes in your residents' status to the pharmacy (discharges, death, hospitalization, acute rehab stays, etc...)

Proper medication administration is really a partnership between the pharmacy and the facility. By working together to strengthen the communication between the two parties, we can keep the best interest of the patient as our priority.

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