

SAFETY MESSAGE OF THE WEEK

Keep Prescriptions Legible!

Nursing and medical staff are reminded that they must ensure that any change in dose or administration time of a drug requires the prescription to be re-written. If the medicine kardex is amended instead of being re-written it can be unclear and cause incorrect medicating.

Incidents have occurred whereby patients have come to harm or have died because of medication errors as a result of an unclear kardex. This example shows a kardex for a patient who was on dual antiplatelet therapy. The time of the medication was changed from 0600 to 1000.

Regular non-injectable medication
Check allergy status and patient identity

Year: 2013 Day and month: 14/10/2013

Circle times or enter variable dose/time

Medicine	Dose	Route	Start date	Stop date	Signature	Medicines Reconciliation (circle)	Signature	Print name	Pharmacy Supply	Prof. reg. no.
ASPIRIN	75mg	Supp	19/10			14- 10- 12-				
CLOPIDOGREL	75mg	Supp	19/10			14- 10- 12-				
CARVEDILOL						14- 10- 12-				

Handwritten notes: 14/10/2013, 15/10/2013, 16/10/2013, 17/10/2013, 18/10/2013, 19/10/2013, 20/10/2013, 21/10/2013, 22/10/2013, 23/10/2013, 24/10/2013, 25/10/2013, 26/10/2013, 27/10/2013, 28/10/2013, 29/10/2013, 30/10/2013, 31/10/2013, 1/11/2013, 2/11/2013, 3/11/2013, 4/11/2013, 5/11/2013, 6/11/2013, 7/11/2013, 8/11/2013, 9/11/2013, 10/11/2013, 11/11/2013, 12/11/2013, 13/11/2013, 14/11/2013, 15/11/2013, 16/11/2013, 17/11/2013, 18/11/2013, 19/11/2013, 20/11/2013, 21/11/2013, 22/11/2013, 23/11/2013, 24/11/2013, 25/11/2013, 26/11/2013, 27/11/2013, 28/11/2013, 29/11/2013, 30/11/2013, 1/12/2013, 2/12/2013, 3/12/2013, 4/12/2013, 5/12/2013, 6/12/2013, 7/12/2013, 8/12/2013, 9/12/2013, 10/12/2013, 11/12/2013, 12/12/2013, 13/12/2013, 14/12/2013, 15/12/2013, 16/12/2013, 17/12/2013, 18/12/2013, 19/12/2013, 20/12/2013, 21/12/2013, 22/12/2013, 23/12/2013, 24/12/2013, 25/12/2013, 26/12/2013, 27/12/2013, 28/12/2013, 29/12/2013, 30/12/2013, 31/12/2013, 1/1/2014, 2/1/2014, 3/1/2014, 4/1/2014, 5/1/2014, 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