

Approximately 1.5 million preventable adverse drug events occur annually as a result of medication error. This is a cost of more than \$3 billion per year.

-U.S. Food and Drug Administration

<http://www.fda.gov/Drugs/DrugSafety/ucm188760.htm>

When patient medications change, it's critically important to check the medication list to be sure there are no problems with new, different or missing medicines. "Medication reconciliation" is the detailed process of checking the accuracy of a patient's medications, particularly when those medications have changed.

Finding and correcting medication discrepancies helps avoid errors such as omissions, duplications, dosing errors or negative drug interactions.

Medication reconciliation is particularly critical during transitions of care, when a patient moves from one care setting to another, such as being admitted to or discharged from a hospital. These transitions commonly involve prescription of new medications which may interact negatively with existing medications.



Michigan Medicaid and Medication Reconciliation at Discharge

Healthcare providers in Michigan are successfully sharing "Discharge Medication Reconciliation" information about their patients today through Michigan's statewide health information network. These messages are delivered to participating organizations in real time, helping to quickly notify care team members of changes in a patient's medications and reducing turnaround time to make claims for prescribed medications.

For Medicaid, this process ***could prevent up to 800 unnecessary beneficiary readmissions per year***, translating to over \$4.8 million in savings (at \$6,000 per readmission).

Participating with electronic exchange of Discharge Medication Reconciliation gives Medicaid case workers access to medication reconciliation information for the Medicaid patient population through CareConnect 360. Better, faster coordination can *minimize the possibility of adverse drug events* for beneficiaries, which in turn *reduces costs to Medicaid from unnecessary readmissions and other potentially harmful outcomes*.

To learn more about sharing Medication Reconciliation information through Michigan's health information network, please contact james.noland@mihin.org.