

Please join Northern Health in Celebrating
Canadian Patient Safety Week
October 29 – November 2, 2018

This year's theme is "Not All Meds Get Along" (Medication Safety)



To reduce harm from medications, please consider **medication reviews** for:

- patients with more than 5 medications
- seniors
- patients recently discharged from hospital
- people with medication side effects

Encourage patients to **track their medications** and to **ask questions about their medications** to ensure they are using them appropriately.

The Medication Crisis:

- An estimated 37% of seniors in nine provinces received a prescription for a drug that should not be taken by this population.
- 2 out of 3 Canadians (66%) over the age of 65 take at least 5 different prescription medications – while 27% take at least 10 different prescription medications.
- In 2016, 1 in 143 Canadian seniors were hospitalized due to harmful effects of their medication.
- Preventable medication hospitalizations costs over \$140 million in direct and indirect healthcare expenditures, with lost productivity, including time off work, adding \$12 million in costs.
- Globally, the cost associated with medication errors has been estimated at over \$55 billion.
#NotAllMedsGetAlong

We invite you to use the enclosed resources in your office