

Recommendations for Patients and Caregivers to Prevent Medication Errors

Medicine safety is a priority at Rutgers Cancer Institute of New Jersey. To ensure medicines are used safely and effectively, it is recommended that patients follow these tips:

- Always bring your medicine(s) with you to every visit. Keep a personal list of all medicines, including prescribed or over-the-counter medicines, herbal or alternative medicines, and tube feeding formulas or oral nutrition supplements that you take. Show this to your healthcare team.
- Inform your healthcare team of any allergies or unusual side effects to medicines.
- Ask to speak with a pharmacist if you have any questions about the treatments or medicines you receive.
- During treatment, as an extra safety measure, we show you each medicine. You will be asked to verify your name and date of birth. This will confirm your identification and help ensure that you are familiar with the medicines you should be receiving that day.
- Question anything you don't understand or doesn't seem right. Be especially alert to changes, such as receiving a prescription refill that seems to have a different strength or appearance from your original prescription.
- Ask if you should avoid certain foods, beverages, other medicines, or activities while you are receiving treatment.
- Request any written information available about your medicines.
- If you have any questions, please ask a member of your healthcare team.

If you are in need of immediate assistance, please call 732-235-2465 and select the option that best meets your needs.