

Takes Medicine the Wrong Way

<p>Identify the Problem</p>	<p>PROBLEM: Takes Medicine the Wrong Way</p> <p>GOAL/EXPECTED OUTCOME: To improve medication management, compliance, and safety</p>
<p>Educate Yourself</p>	<p>ASSESS FURTHER:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What medication is the person taking? Can the caregiver make a list? • Is there anything that is causing the person to have trouble taking medications the way they were prescribed? • Is the person taking medications on his/her own? • Is the person refusing to take medications? • How often does the person have trouble with medications? • Where are the medications being kept? • Are all of the medications stored in the same place? • Has the person been showing any sudden and unusual changes in cognition and/or behavior?
<p>Adapt</p> <p>Problem solve with interventions and actions</p>	<p>TEACH PROBLEM-SOLVING STRATEGIES TO CAREGIVER:</p> <p>As Alzheimer's disease progresses, the caregiver will need to take over medication management. Caregivers will not be able to rely on the person with Alzheimer's to take medications on his/her own</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not leave the person alone to take his/her medication • Watch closely. Make sure the person: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Takes the right pills and the right amounts ○ Takes medications at the right times ○ Follows the directions on the medication • Lock away medications: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Do not leave medications in a pill box or cup on the counter ○ Make sure all medications are out of sight and out of reach • Talk to ALL the doctors: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Talk to the doctor about any medications that may have been prescribed by separate provider ○ Do not stop giving any medication without asking the prescribing doctor first ○ Bring all medications in a bag or box to every doctor visit <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Include vitamins, herbs, teas, creams, and other pills from the drugstore ○ Ask the doctor if medications can be mixed into food or drinks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ This may be helpful if you are having trouble getting the person to take his/her pills ○ Ask the person's doctor about switching to medications that last longer so the person does not have to take them as often

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ask the person’s doctor about the possible side effects of each medication ● Try setting alarms for when medications need to be taken ● Help the person get to the pharmacy or have the medications delivered to the home <p><u>CLINICAL SUPPORT:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Refer to PCP if there is ANY sudden and unusual change in person’s cognition and/or behavior. It could be caused by a medication reaction, medication interaction, or a new illness ● Refer to pharmacist to review all medications ● Refer to PCP or pharmacist to discuss any difficulties with medication administration and compliance ● Refer to PCP or pharmacist to discuss alternative methods of medication administration, such as crushing pills or longer-lasting dosages <p><u>CAREGIVER SUPPORT AND COMMUNITY RESOURCES:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Listen empathically to caregiver and evaluate for level of distress ● Refer to IHSS ● Refer to MSSP ● Refer to Alzheimer’s Greater Los Angeles for support groups, disease education, and care consultation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ ALZ Direct Connect referral ○ Provide 24/7 Helpline #: 844.HELP.ALZ 844.4357.259 ○ Website: www.alzgia.org ● Send literature: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Quick Fact Sheet – Medications (English and Spanish) ○ Topic Sheet – “Managing Medications” <p><u>FOLLOW UP:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Schedule a phone call with caregiver to discuss outcomes and provide additional support
	<p><u>NOTES:</u></p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>