

# The Importance of Pharmacovigilance



# Designing Medication Processes for Humans

Medication Safety Regional Workshop Series

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New Zealand



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Medication safety starts  
at drug development...

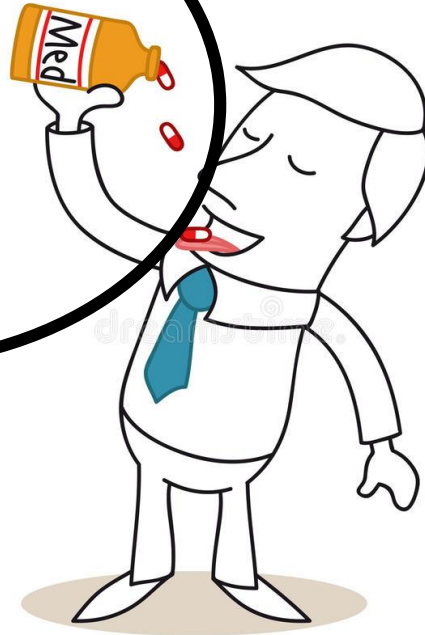
...and never really  
finishes

- Medication errors happen at the human-medication interface outside the body
- Adverse effects and drug interactions happen at the human-medication interface inside the body





Medication  
errors





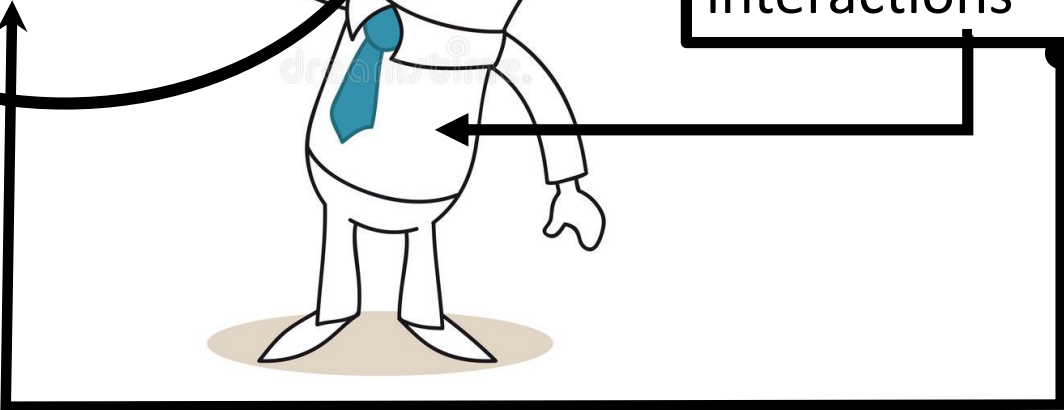
Medication  
errors

Allergies  
Adverse drug reactions  
Drug-Drug, Drug-Disease  
interactions

Medication errors

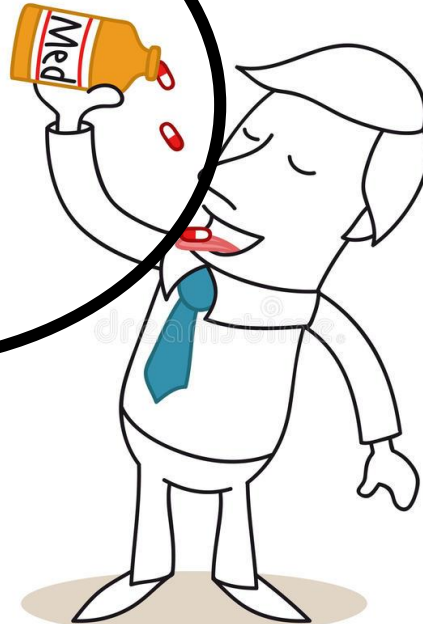


Allergies  
Adverse drug reactions  
Drug-Drug, Drug-Disease interactions



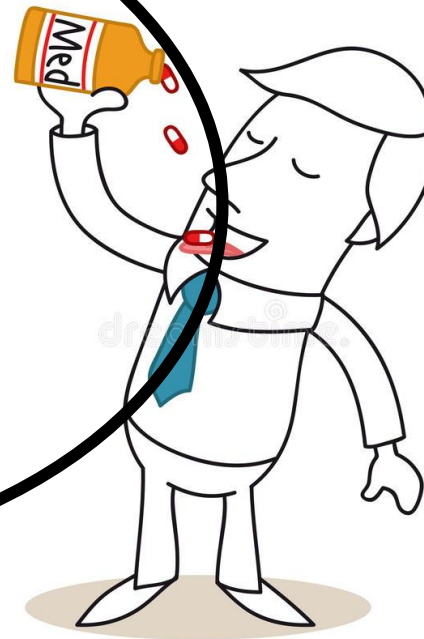
- Prevention is cheaper and more effective than treatment

Re-exposure  
prevention  
system



If our fellow develops a  
drug-drug interaction,  
you can set up a system  
to reduce the likelihood  
of re-exposure.

Any subsequent  
re-exposure  
should be  
considered a  
medication error



- You need programs that address all of medication safety
- You need programs to talk to one another

- A number of countries do not do this well
- Canada does not do this well



- New Zealand really does this well
  - MERP
  - CARM
- You have the whole picture





Thank You!

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