



# **PATIENT'S VOICE FOR MEDICATION SAFETY – A MOTHER'S PERSPECTIVE**

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# Medication harm is human harm



# A case of multiple errors

1. Pre-existing conditions
2. Normalizing the abnormal
3. Communication failures
4. Assumptions may be incorrect

Harm can occur with little warning





# Our system fails when

1. There is no reporting
2. There is no learning
3. There are no recommendations for improvements

# To creates real change

1. Media coverage
2. Public interest and support
3. Political will

# What lessons were learned

1. Change the culture
2. Help patients take an active role
3. Report when harm occurs

# 5 QUESTIONS TO ASK ABOUT YOUR MEDICATIONS

when you see your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist.

## 1. CHANGES?

Have any medications been added, stopped or changed, and why?

## 2. CONTINUE?

What medications do I need to keep taking, and why?

## 3. PROPER USE?

How do I take my medications, and for how long?

## 4. MONITOR?

How will I know if my medication is working, and what side effects do I watch for?

## 5. FOLLOW-UP?

Do I need any tests and when do I book my next visit?



Keep your medication record up to date.

### Remember to Include:

- ✓ drug allergies
- ✓ vitamins and minerals
- ✓ herbal/natural products
- ✓ all medications including non-prescription products

Ask your doctor, nurse or pharmacist to review all your medications to see if any can be stopped or reduced.

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**They're not just statistics; they're people who have been harmed**

