How to manage polypharmacy for patients with intellectual disability

The Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care made a fact sheet to help health professionals manage polypharmacy in patients with intellectual disability.

Polypharmacy is when a patient uses five or more medicines at the same time. It can lead to problems if it is not managed well. There are challenges for people with complex disability, and more than one disability.

Information about medicines can be hard to understand. People with intellectual disability may need extra help from health professionals. They need clear advice about what to take, when and how. They may also need help knowing about side effects.

The fact sheet can help health professionals communicate clearly. It can teach them how to help people with intellectual disabilities take all their medicines safely.

This resource was made by

Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care

The Commission leads and coordinates national improvements in the safety and quality of health care in Australia. It is part of the Health portfolio of the Australian Government.

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