

Polypharmacy Project

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N322 Introduction to Pharmacology

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**Polypharmacy Case 8**

**Patient:** Jerry is an 88 year old male who lives with his spouse Clara in an independent living facility. They have two children that live nearby and assist them as needed. Jerry's dementia has been progressing recently. He frequently forgets what medication he has taken, and his children want him admitted to a long-term care: as the assisted living facility he lives in does not provide medication administration services. Jerry refuses to move to an assisted living facility- and has not been deemed incapable of making his own decisions, thus he will remain in assisted living.

**Social history:** Both he and his wife have Medicare and social security.

**Medical history:** Dementia, hypertension, chronic kidney disease, hyperlipidemia, chronic anemia, rheumatoid arthritis

**Allergies:** Lisinopril, Sulfa, latex

**Wt 250 pounds. Ht 6ft 4 in**

**Medications:**

**Rivastigmine 6 mg by mouth twice daily**

**Enalapril 10mg PO BID**

**Fenofibrate 145mg PO Daily**

**Oxycodone 2.5mg Q6H PRN**

**Miralax packet 17 G mixed with juice/water every morning**

**Prednisone 10mg PO everyday**

**Alprazolam 0.5mg PO TID PRN**

**Aranesp 0.45mcg/kg Sub-Q every 4 weeks**

**Ferrous Sulfate 325mg PO daily**

**Paroxetine 20mg PO daily**

<b>Rivastigmine</b>  <b>Drug Class: cholinesterase inhibitor</b>	<b>Drug Name (Generic): rivastigmine</b>  <b>Drug Name (Trade): Exelon Patch</b>
<b>How is the medication taken: (include dose, route, and frequency)</b>	<b>6 mg by mouth twice daily</b>
<b>Specific Directions not included above:</b>	
<b>Does this medication interact with any other medication(s) on this list? (see rubric for further instruction)</b>	<b>No interactions with this medication</b>
<b>Lifestyle interactions:</b>  <b>(Daily tobacco use, alcohol, drugs, etc.)</b>	<b>No lifestyle interactions with this medication</b>
<b>Does any of the client's past medical history contradict the use of this medication?</b>	<b>No past medical history contradictions</b>
<b>What is the indication for use of this medication based on the client's past medical history? (If unable to determine an indication based on past medical</b>	<b>Indicated for the treatment to mild to moderate dementia of Alzheimer's type (Jones &amp;</b>

<b>history, please list potential indications for use of the medication in general)</b>	<b>Bartlett Learning, 2020).</b>
<b>What would you teach the client about taking this medication?</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="871 345 1997 597">1. <b>Explain to the patient and family that rivastigmine can't cure Alzheimer's or Parkinson's disease but may slow the progression deterioration of memory and improve patient's ability to perform activities of daily living (Jones &amp; Bartlett Learning, 2020).</b></li> <li data-bbox="871 638 1969 743">2. <b>Explain that oral drug should be taken with food to reduce adverse GI effects (Jones &amp; Bartlett Learning, 2020).</b></li> </ol>
<b>How much would medication cost per month if paying out of pocket?</b>	<b>\$482.27 (Rivastigmine prices, coupons &amp; savings tips)</b>

<b>Enalapril</b> <b>Drug Class: ACE inhibitor</b>	<b>Drug Name (Generic): Enalapril</b> <b>Drug Name (Trade): Epaned</b>
<b>How is the medication taken: (include dose, route, and frequency)</b>	<b>10 mg PO BID</b>
<b>Specific Directions not included above:</b>	

<p><b>Does this medication interact with any other medication(s) on this list? (see rubric for further instruction)</b></p>	<p><b>Alprazolam:</b> may have addictive effects in lowering your blood pressure. You may experience headache, dizziness, lightheadedness, fainting, and/or changes in pulse of heart rate (Drug interaction report).</p> <p><b>Oxycodone:</b> may have addictive effects in lowering your blood pressure. You may experience headache, dizziness, lightheadedness, fainting, and/or changes in pulse of heart rate (Drug interaction report).</p> <p><b>Prednisone:</b> may reduce the effects of enalapril in lowering blood pressure. The interaction is most likely to occur when prednisone is used for more than a week, since prolonged use can cause sodium and water retention (Drug interaction report).</p>
<p><b>Lifestyle interactions:</b> <b>(Daily tobacco use, alcohol, drugs, etc.)</b></p>	<p><b>No lifestyle interactions with this medication</b></p>
<p><b>Does any of the client's past medical history contradict the use of this medication?</b></p>	<p><b>No past medical history contradictions</b></p>
<p><b>What is the indication for use of this medication based on the client's past medical history? (If unable to determine an indication based on past medical history, please list potential indications for use of the medication in general)</b></p>	<p><b>Indicated to treat hypertension (Jones &amp; Bartlett Learning, 2020).</b></p>
<p><b>What would you teach the client about taking this</b></p>	<p><b>1. Urge the patient to stop taking the drug and immediately seek emergency care if</b></p>

<b>medication?</b>	<p>swelling in extremities, face, lips, tongue, or throat occurs (Jones &amp; Bartlett Learning, 2020).</p> <p>2. Instruct the patient not to chew, crush, or split tablets (Jones &amp; Bartlett Learning, 2020).</p>
<b>How much would medication cost per month if paying out of pocket?</b>	<b>\$40.57 (Enalapril prices, coupons &amp; savings tips)</b>

<b>Fenofibrate</b>	<b>Drug Name (Generic): Fenofibrate</b>
<b>Drug Class: fibrate</b>	<b>Drug Name (Trade): Antara</b>
<b>How is the medication taken: (include dose, route, and frequency)</b>	145 mg PO daily
<b>Specific Directions not included above:</b>	
<b>Does this medication interact with any other medication(s) on this list? (see rubric for further instruction)</b>	<b>No interactions with this medication</b>
<b>Lifestyle interactions: (Daily tobacco use, alcohol, drugs, etc.)</b>	<b>No lifestyle interactions with this medication</b>

<b>Does any of the client's past medical history contradict the use of this medication?</b>	<b>Chronic kidney disease (Jones &amp; Bartlett Learning, 2020).</b>
<b>What is the indication for use of this medication based on the clients past medical history? (If unable to determine an indication based on past medical history, please list potential indications for use of the medication in general)</b>	<b>Indication to treat primary hypercholesterolemia or mixed hyperlipidemia (Jones &amp; Bartlett Learning, 2020).</b>
<b>What would you teach the client about taking this medication?</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="871 711 2016 820">1. <b>Emphasize the drug will be effective only if patient carefully follows prescriber's instructions about diet and exercise (Jones &amp; Bartlett Learning, 2020).</b></li> <li data-bbox="871 852 2016 1031">2. <b>Instruct this patient to use sunscreen and protective clothing while in the sun and to limit time spent in the sun because photosensitivity may occur weeks to months after drug is initiated (Jones &amp; Bartlett Learning, 2020).</b></li> </ol>
<b>How much would medication cost per month if paying out of pocket?</b>	<b>\$61.31 (Fenofibrate prices, coupons &amp; savings tips)</b>

<b>Oxycodone</b>	<b>Drug Name (Generic): oxycodone</b>
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<b>Drug Class: Opioid</b>	<b>Drug Name (Trade): OxyContin</b>
<b>How is the medication taken: (include dose, route, and frequency)</b>	<b>2.5 mg Q6H PRN</b>
<b>Specific Directions not included above:</b>	
<b>Does this medication interact with any other medication(s) on this list? (see rubric for further instruction)</b>	<p><b>Alprazolam: When using pain or cough medications together with other medications that also cause central nervous system depression can lead to serious side effects including respiratory distress, coma and even death (Drug interaction report).</b></p> <p><b>Enalapril: may have addictive effects in lowering your blood pressure. You may experience headache, dizziness, lightheadedness, fainting, and/or changes in pulse of heart rate (Drug interaction report).</b></p> <p><b>Paroxetine: using together can increase the risk of a rare but serious condition called serotonin syndrome, which may include symptoms such as confusion, hallucinations, seizures, extreme changes in blood pressure , increased heart rate, fever, excessive sweating, shivering or shaking, blurred vision, muscle spasm or stiffness, tremor, incoordination, stomach cramp, nausea, vomiting, and diarrhea. Severe cases may result in coma and even death (Drug interaction report).</b></p>
<b>Lifestyle interactions: (Daily tobacco use, alcohol, drugs, etc.)</b>	<b>No lifestyle interactions with this medication</b>
<b>Does any of the client's past medical history contradict the use of this medication?</b>	<b>No past medical history contradictions with this medication</b>
<b>What is the indication for use of this medication</b>	<b>Indication to relieve pain severe enough to require opioid treatment and for which</b>

<p><b>based on the client's past medical history? (If unable to determine an indication based on past medical history, please list potential indications for use of the medication in general)</b></p>	<p><b>alternative treatment options such as nonopioid analgesics or opioid combination products are inadequate or not tolerated (Jones &amp; Bartlett Learning, 2020).</b></p>
<p><b>What would you teach the client about taking this medication?</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1. Strongly warn patient to swallow tablets whole and not to break, chew, or crush them because taking broken, chewed, or crushed tablets leads to rapid release and absorption of a potentially fatal dose (Jones &amp; Bartlett Learning, 2020).</b></li> <li><b>2. Instruct the patient not to take oxycodone more often than prescribed and not to take longer than absolutely needed because excessive or prolong use can lead to abuse, addiction, misuse, overdose and possible death (Jones &amp; Bartlett Learning, 2020).</b></li> </ol>
<p><b>How much would medication cost per month if paying out of pocket?</b></p>	<p><b>\$57.61 (Oxycodone prices, coupons &amp; savings tips)</b></p>

<p><b>MiraLAX packet</b></p> <p><b>Drug Class: Stimulant laxative</b></p>	<p><b>Drug Name (Generic): MiraLAX packet</b></p> <p><b>Drug Name (Trade): Polyethylene glycol 3350</b></p>
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<b>How is the medication taken: (include dose, route, and frequency)</b>	<b>17 G mixed with juice/water every morning</b>
<b>Specific Directions not included above:</b>	
<b>Does this medication interact with any other medication(s) on this list? (see rubric for further instruction)</b>	<b>Prednisone: Talk to your doctor before using prednisone together with any kind of medication that has a laxative effect. Combining these medications, especially over a prolonged period, may increase the risk of dehydration and hypokalemia, or low blood potassium. In severe cases, hypokalemia can lead to muscle weakness, paralysis, breathing and swallowing difficulties (due to muscle paralysis), and irregular heart rhythm (Drug interaction report).</b>
<b>Lifestyle interactions: (Daily tobacco use, alcohol, drugs, etc.)</b>	<b>No lifestyle interactions</b>
<b>Does any of the client's past medical history contradict the use of this medication?</b>	<b>Chronic kidney disease Chronic anemia (Jones &amp; Bartlett Learning, 2020).</b>
<b>What is the indication for use of this medication based on the client's past medical history? (If unable to determine an indication based on past medical history, please list potential indications for use of the</b>	<b>Indication is used for short-term treatment of constipation and long-term treatment of chronic constipation (Jones &amp; Bartlett Learning, 2020).</b>

<b>medication in general)</b>	
<b>What would you teach the client about taking this medication?</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1. Take the missed dose as soon as you remember. Skip the missed dose if it is almost time for your next scheduled dose. Do not take extra medicine to make up the missed dose (Jones &amp; Bartlett Learning, 2020).</b></li> <li><b>2. Do not use more than once per day. Call your doctor if you are still constipated or irregular after using this medication for 7 days in a row (Jones &amp; Bartlett Learning, 2020).</b></li> </ol>
<b>How much would medication cost per month if paying out of pocket?</b>	<b>\$23.08 (Compare miralax prices)</b>

<b>Prednisone</b>	<b>Drug Name (Generic): prednisone</b>
<b>Drug Class: corticosteroids</b>	<b>Drug Name (Trade): Deltasone</b>
<b>How is the medication taken: (include dose, route, and frequency)</b>	<b>10 mg PO everyday</b>
<b>Specific Directions not included above:</b>	

<p><b>Does this medication interact with any other medication(s) on this list? (see rubric for further instruction)</b></p>	<p><b>MiraLAX: Talk to your doctor before using prednisone together with any kind of medication with a laxative effect. Combining these medications, especially over a prolonged period, may increase the risk of dehydration and hypokalemia, low blood potassium (Drug interaction report).</b></p> <p><b>Enalapril: may reduce the effects of enalapril in lowering blood pressure. The interaction is most likely to occur when prednisone is used for more than a week, since prolonged use can cause sodium and water retention (Drug interaction report).</b></p>
<p><b>Lifestyle interactions: (Daily tobacco use, alcohol, drugs, etc.)</b></p>	<p><b>No lifestyle interactions</b></p>
<p><b>Does any of the client's past medical history contradict the use of this medication?</b></p>	<p><b>No past medical history contradictions with this medication</b></p>
<p><b>What is the indication for use of this medication based on the client's past medical history? (If unable to determine an indication based on past medical history, please list potential indications for use of the medication in general)</b></p>	<p><b>Indicated to treat adrenal insufficiency and acute and chronic inflammatory and immunosuppressive disorders (Jones &amp; Bartlett Learning, 2020).</b></p>
<p><b>What would you teach the client about taking this medication?</b></p>	<p><b>1. Caution against receiving vaccinations or other immunizations and coming in contact with people who have recently received oral poliovirus vaccine (Jones &amp; Bartlett Learning, 2020).</b></p>

	2. Urge the patient to avoid alcohol during therapy because of increased risk of GI ulcers and bleeding (Jones & Bartlett Learning, 2020).
How much would medication cost per month if paying out of pocket?	\$12.73 (Prednisone prices, coupons & savings tips)

Alprazolam Drug Class: benzodiazepine	Drug Name (Generic): alprazolam Drug Name (Trade): Xanax
How is the medication taken: (include dose, route, and frequency)	0.5 mg PO TID PRN
Specific Directions not included above:	
Does this medication interact with any other medication(s) on this list? (see rubric for further instruction)	<p><b>Oxycodone:</b> When using pain or cough medications together with other medications that also cause central nervous system depression can lead to serious side effects including respiratory distress, coma and even death (Drug interaction report).</p> <p><b>Enalapril:</b> may have addictive effects in lowering your blood pressure. You may experience headache, dizziness, lightheadedness, fainting, and/or changes in pulse of heart rate (Drug interaction report).</p> <p><b>Paroxetine:</b> may increase side effects such as dizziness, drowsiness, confusion, and</p>

	<b>difficulty concentrating. Some people, especially the elderly, may also experience impairment in thinking, judgment, and motor coordination. You should avoid or limit the use of alcohol while being treated with these medications. Also avoid activities requiring mental alertness such as driving or operating hazardous machinery until you know how the medications affect you (Drug interaction report).</b>
<b>Lifestyle interactions: (Daily tobacco use, alcohol, drugs, etc.)</b>	<b>No lifestyle interactions with this medication</b>
<b>Does any of the client's past medical history contradict the use of this medication?</b>	<b>No past medical history contradictions with this medication</b>
<b>What is the indication for use of this medication based on the client's past medical history? (If unable to determine an indication based on past medical history, please list potential indications for use of the medication in general)</b>	<b>Indicated to control anxiety disorders, relieve anxiety (short-term therapy), or treat anxiety associated with depression (Jones &amp; Bartlett Learning, 2020).</b>
<b>What would you teach the client about taking this medication?</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1. Warn against stopping drug abruptly because withdrawal symptoms may occur (Jones &amp; Bartlett Learning, 2020).</b></li> <li><b>2. Instruct patient never to increase prescribed dose because of risk of dependency</b></li> </ol>

	<b>(Jones &amp; Bartlett Learning, 2020).</b>
<b>How much would medication cost per month if paying out of pocket?</b>	<b>\$35.08 (Alprazolam prices, coupons &amp; savings tips)</b>

<b>Aranesp</b>	<b>Drug Name (Generic): aranesp</b>
<b>Drug Class: Antianemic</b>	<b>Drug Name (Trade): Darbepoetin alfa</b>
<b>How is the medication taken: (include dose, route, and frequency)</b>	<b>0.45 mcg/kg Sub-Q every 4 weeks</b>
<b>Specific Directions not included above:</b>	
<b>Does this medication interact with any other medication(s) on this list? (see rubric for further instruction)</b>	<b>No medication interaction</b>
<b>Lifestyle interactions: (Daily tobacco use, alcohol, drugs, etc.)</b>	<b>No lifestyle interaction with this medication</b>
<b>Does any of the client's past medical history contradict the use of this medication?</b>	<b>Hypertension  (Jones &amp; Bartlett Learning, 2020).</b>

<p><b>What is the indication for use of this medication based on the client's past medical history? (If unable to determine an indication based on past medical history, please list potential indications for use of the medication in general)</b></p>	<p><b>Indicated to treat anemia from chronic renal failure (Jones &amp; Bartlett Learning, 2020).</b></p>
<p><b>What would you teach the client about taking this medication?</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1. Instruct the patient how to administer a subcutaneous injection, rotate sites, and properly dispose of needles, syringes or unused portions of single-dose vials (Jones &amp; Bartlett Learning, 2020).</b></li> <li><b>2. Advise the patient to follow up with prescriber for blood pressure monitoring (Jones &amp; Bartlett Learning, 2020).</b></li> </ol>
<p><b>How much would medication cost per month if paying out of pocket?</b></p>	<p><b>\$1,620.69 (Darbepoetin Alfa Prices, coupons &amp; savings tips)</b></p>

<p><b>Ferrous Sulfate</b></p> <p><b>Drug Class: Antianemia</b></p>	<p><b>Drug Name (Generic): ferrous sulfate</b></p> <p><b>Drug Name (Trade): Feratab</b></p>
<p><b>How is the medication taken: (include dose, route, and frequency)</b></p>	<p><b>325mg PO daily</b></p>

<b>Specific Directions not included above:</b>	
<b>Does this medication interact with any other medication(s) on this list? (see rubric for further instruction)</b>	<b>No medication interactions</b>
<b>Lifestyle interactions: (Daily tobacco use, alcohol, drugs, etc.)</b>	<b>No lifestyle interactions</b>
<b>Does any of the client's past medical history contradict the use of this medication?</b>	<b>No past medical history contradictions to this medication</b>
<b>What is the indication for use of this medication based on the client's past medical history? (If unable to determine an indication based on past medical history, please list potential indications for use of the medication in general)</b>	<b>Indicated to prevent iron deficiency based on recommended daily allowances (Jones &amp; Bartlett Learning, 2020).</b>
<b>What would you teach the client about taking this medication?</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1. Instruct the patient not to chew any solid form of iron except for chewable tablets (Jones &amp; Bartlett Learning, 2020).</b></li> <li><b>2. Urge patient to eat chicken, fish, lean red meat, and turkey, as well as foods rich in vitamin C (such as citrus fruits and fresh vegetables) to improve iron</b></li> </ol>

	<b>absorption (Jones &amp; Bartlett Learning, 2020).</b>
<b>How much would medication cost per month if paying out of pocket?</b>	<b>\$7.48 (Compare ferrous sulfate prices)</b>

<b>Paroxetine</b>	<b>Drug Name (Generic): paroxetine</b>
<b>Drug Class: Selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor (SSRI)</b>	<b>Drug Name (Trade): Paxil</b>
<b>How is the medication taken: (include dose, route, and frequency)</b>	<b>20mg PO Daily</b>
<b>Specific Directions not included above:</b>	
<b>Does this medication interact with any other medication(s) on this list? (see rubric for further instruction)</b>	<p><b>Oxycodone: : using together can increase the risk of a rare but serious condition called serotonin syndrome, which may include symptoms such as confusion, hallucinations, seizures, extreme changes in blood pressure , increased heart rate, fever, excessive sweating, shivering or shaking, blurred vision, muscle spasm or stiffness, tremor, incoordination, stomach cramp, nausea, vomiting, and diarrhea. Severe cases may result in coma and even death (Drug interaction report).</b></p> <p><b>Alprazolam: may increase side effects such as dizziness, drowsiness, confusion, and difficulty concentrating. Some people, especially the elderly, may also experience impairment in thinking, judgment, and motor coordination. You should avoid or limit the use of alcohol while being treated with these medications. Also avoid activities requiring mental alertness such as driving or operating hazardous machinery until you</b></p>

	know how the medications affect you ( <b>Drug interaction report</b> ).
<b>Lifestyle interactions:</b> <b>(Daily tobacco use, alcohol, drugs, etc.)</b>	<b>No lifestyle interactions</b>
<b>Does any of the client's past medical history contradict the use of this medication?</b>	<b>No past medical history contradictions</b>
<b>What is the indication for use of this medication based on the client's past medical history? (If unable to determine an indication based on past medical history, please list potential indications for use of the medication in general)</b>	<b>Indicated to treat major depression (Jones &amp; Bartlett Learning, 2020).</b>
<b>What would you teach the client about taking this medication?</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1. Advise the patient to take in the morning to minimize insomnia and to take it with food if adverse GI reactions develop (Jones &amp; Bartlett Learning, 2020).</b></li> <li><b>2. Tell patient to swallow C.R. tablet whole and not to chew, crush, or cut them (Jones &amp; Bartlett Learning, 2020).</b></li> </ol>
<b>How much would medication cost per month if paying out of pocket?</b>	<b>\$24.06 (Paroxetine prices, coupons &amp; savings tips)</b>

**Is there anything about this medication regimen scenario that might indicate a potential difficulty in maintaining compliance with the orders as listed?**

**Jerry is an 88-year-old who has dementia. He is living with a disease that causes cognitive decline and makes it very easy to forget. In the scenario, it states that he frequently fails what medication he has taken. His dementia can be challenging to maintain compliance with the orders because of many of Jerry's drugs specific to the provider's charges. For example, his demand for MiraLAX is mixed with juice or water every morning, and it is vital not to take this medication more than once a day. If Jerry is forgetful of what medication he is taking, he could be ingesting more than is needed or none at all, which can cause serious health-related issues for Jerry. He also refuses to be brought into an assisted living facility to get the medication administration he needs.**

**Is there anything about this medication regimen scenario that might assist the client in maintaining the medication regimen as ordered?**

**Jerry has two children that live nearby and assist when they are needed. His children want him to transfer into a long-term care facility, but Jerry is refusing. He not entirely incapable yet of making his own decisions so that he will remain in assisted living. In his assisted living, there is not medication administration, and it is up to the resistant to take it on their own. Due to**

Jerry's dementia progressing, they would like their father to transfer to assisted living, but he refuses. I feel until Jerry is deemed incapable, the two children could switch off going to make sure the medications are being taken at the correct times or if their mother, who lives in the same facility, can aid Jerry when the children are unavailable to do so. Besides the dementia matter, Jerry and his wife also have Medicare and social security to help with the medications' cost. Aranesp out of pocket is \$1,620.67; with the Medicare coverage, the payment is taken care of thoroughly (Prescription prices, coupons & Pharmacy Information). Medication cost relief from Medicare goes for almost every medication the patient is prescribed, including Rivastigmine, Enalapril, and Paroxetine. Medicare does not cover MiraLAX due to it being an over-the-counter drug. The patient will have to pay \$23.08 a month for this medication (Prescription prices, coupons & Pharmacy Information). Medicare does not cover oxycodone; this drug can be pretty expensive by being \$57.61 a month. There are pharmaceutical coupons and that can decrease the amount when purchasing the medication (Prescription prices, coupons & Pharmacy Information). Fenofibrate is about 98% covered by Medicare. Prednisone is about 99% covered by Medicare. Alprazolam and Ferrous Sulfate is more inexpensive drugs but are covered by most Medicare and insurance plans (Prescription prices, coupons & Pharmacy Information).

What suggestions might you make to the prescriber and/or client (or questions you might ask the prescriber) to help this client scenario? (think about decreasing the potential for interaction(s) through medication reduction, other potential medications, diet changes, lifestyle changes, etc.)

I would address to the provider first about the patient's deteriorating cognition. Jerry's dementia can cause him to be forgetful, which leads him not to know what medications he has taken. Each drug has a particular indicated use, specific dose, frequency, and certain education measures that need to proceed every day actively. His dementia is a priority because if Jerry, let's say, takes his oxycodone in the morning and later in the day does not remember if he took it or not and takes another dose, this can lead to severe issues. It's essential in the client's education of this drug not to take more often than prescribed and not take longer than needed because excessive or prolonged use can lead to abuse, addiction, misuse, overdose, and possible death. There are also many drug interactions Jerry would need to know of, but with his deteriorating mind, it may be hard for him to think of those contradictions. For example, Alprazolam has medication interactions with Oxycodone, Enalapril, and Paroxetine. His dementia is vital for the prescriber to discuss with Jerry to try and get him to be more open to the idea of an assisted living facility to be able to not cause serious harm to himself by overtaking or not taking his medication at all.

**What would the patients monthly out of pocket expense for all 10 medications? (Total Cost for all 10 meds)?**

Rivastigmine: \$482.27

Enalapril: \$40.57

Fenofibrate: \$61.31

**Oxycodone: \$57.61**

**Miralax: \$23.08**

**Prednisone: \$12. 73**

**Alprazolam: \$35.08**

**Aranesp: \$1,620.69**

**Ferrous Sulfate: \$7.48**

**Paroxetine: \$24.06**

**Total= \$2,364.88**

**Reflective Statement of Experience:**

**I believe this project was exciting to see how each medication can play a role on each other or in the life of another human being. It was shocking the number of interactions medication causes have with the other ones prescribed by the doctor. For example, Paroxetine is used to treat major depression, which I found curious as to why the prescriber would have the medication. Furthermore, this medication interacts with Oxycodone by increasing the risk of a rare but severe serotonin syndrome. This interaction may include symptoms such as confusion, hallucinations, seizures, extreme changes in blood pressure, increased heart rate, fever, excessive sweating, shivering or shaking, blurred vision, muscle spasm or stiffness,**

tremor, incoordination, stomach cramp, nausea, vomiting, and diarrhea. Severe cases may result in coma and even death (Drug interaction report). It also interacts with Alprazolam by increasing side effects such as dizziness, drowsiness, confusion, and difficulty concentrating. Some people, especially the elderly, may also experience impairment in thinking, judgment, and motor coordination. (Drug interaction report). This project furthered my education on drugs' interactions with multiple targets and what can interfere with different pathways. This project progressed my knowledge of other medications and how to find priority information to better inform the patient on what needs in patient's care and what is essential to know.

### References

- Drug interaction report. (n.d.). Retrieved April 05, 2021, from [https://www.drugs.com/interactions-check.php?drug\\_list=2023-0%2C1071-0%2C972-0%2C1770-0%2C1893-1224%2C1936-0%2C133-0%2C784-405%2C1082-0%2C1800-0](https://www.drugs.com/interactions-check.php?drug_list=2023-0%2C1071-0%2C972-0%2C1770-0%2C1893-1224%2C1936-0%2C133-0%2C784-405%2C1082-0%2C1800-0)
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## N322 Polypharmacy Grading Rubric

Criteria	Excellent 40 points	Acceptable 31-39 points	Unacceptable 0-30 points	Points Earned
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Each drug should have a completed breakdown within the tables provided, which includes the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Drug class</li> <li>• Generic name</li> <li>• Trade name</li> <li>• How is the medication taken (include dose, route, frequency)</li> </ul>	All key components were addressed within the paper and were accurate.	The student provided the required information for some of the medications, but not all and/or the answers provided were inaccurate. (Each individual component for each medication is worth one point)	The student failed to address a sufficient number of the listed components within the paper and/or the components were addressed but were inaccurate. (Each individual component for each medication is worth one point)	___/40
<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Excellent 10 points</b>	<b>Acceptable 8-10 points</b>	<b>Unacceptable 0 - 7 points</b>	<b>Points Earned</b>
Specific Directions not included above: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is there any type of medication on the patient list that have specific directions?  (before bed, before breakfast, 30 minutes before meals, etc..)</li> </ul>	All key components were addressed within the paper.	The student did list some of the medications that required specific directions, however some of the medications included specific directions that were not addressed and/or were inaccurate. (For each medication this question is worth one point)	Student failed to answer the questions and/or the answers were inaccurate. (For each medication this question is worth one point)	___/10
<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Excellent 0 points</b>	<b>Acceptable 16-19</b>	<b>Unacceptable 0-15 points</b>	<b>Points Earned</b>
Does this medication have any potentially serious interactions with any other	All medications reviewed	The student did list some of the potential interactions of the	Student failed to answer question and/or The student	___/20

<p>medication(s) on this list, and/or potential interactions that should be closely monitored due to co-administration?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Do any of the medications interact with each other?</li> </ul> <p>(Please note: if there is an interaction between two medication, you MUST list that interaction on BOTH medications to receive full credit. You may utilize the same verbiage/wording on each medication, we want to know you are thinking about it when considering each medication)</p>	<p>and student explained medication interactions.</p>	<p>medication(s), but failed to address all potential interactions that are serious and/or need close monitoring. (for each medication listed this question is worth two points)</p>	<p>did list some of the potential interactions of the medication(s), but failed to address all potential interactions that are serious and/or need close monitoring. (for each medication listed this question is worth two points)</p>	
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Criteria	Excellent 5 points	Acceptable 4 points	Unacceptable 0 -3 points	Points Earned
<p>Lifestyle interactions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What lifestyle factors counteract with the medications?</li> </ul>	<p>Student showed knowledge why lifestyle would counteract</p>	<p>The student listed lifestyle interactions for some of the medications, but not all and/or the interactions listed were not priority or were incorrect. (For each</p>	<p>Student failed to answer question or the student listed lifestyle interactions for</p>	<p>___/5</p>

(tobacco user, ETOH use - 3 beers daily)	with medications	medication, this question is worth half a point)	some of the medications, but not all and/or the interactions listed were not priority or were incorrect. (For each medication, this question is worth half a point)	
Criteria	Excellent 10 points	Average 8-9	Unacceptable 0-7 points	Points Earned
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Does any of the client's past medical history contradict the use of this medication?</li> </ul>	Student showed knowledge why the client's past medical history would contradict the use of the medication(s).	Student provided answers to the question(s), but failed to answer all the questions and/or the answers provided were inaccurate. (For each medication this question is worth one point)	Student failed to answer question or Student provided answers to the question(s), but failed to answer all the questions and/or the answers provided were inaccurate. (For each medication this question is	___/10

<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Excellent 10 points</b>	<b>Acceptable 8-9 points</b>	<b>Unacceptable 0-7 points</b>	<b>Points Earned</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What is the indication for use of this medication based on the client's past medical history? (If unable to determine an indication based on past medical history, please list potential indications for use of the medication in general)</li> </ul>	Student showed knowledge of medications and what conditions corresponds with medications	The student provided appropriate indications for some of the medications, but failed to capture all of the appropriate indications for use. (For each medication this question is worth one point)	Student failed to answer the question or The student provided appropriate indications for some of the medications, but failed to capture all of the appropriate indications for use. (For each medication this question is worth one point)	___/10
<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Excellent 20 points</b>	<b>Acceptable 16-19 points</b>	<b>Unacceptable 0-15 points</b>	<b>Points Earned</b>
<p>What would you teach the client about taking this medication?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What education is needed for the medication? (For each medication listed the student must prioritize two</li> </ul>	Student showed the importance of medication education, and appropriate prioritized client education for	The student provided some appropriate education for the client, but failed to capture all of the appropriately prioritized education for the client. (Each topic of education is worth one point)	Student failed to answer the question OR The student provided some appropriate education for the client, but failed to	___/20

<p>topics for client education) (You must consider all component(s) of the medication list when answering this question... if there are potential interactions with other medication this may be a priority over general education for this one medication)</p>	<p>the scenario provided.</p>		<p>capture all of the appropriately prioritized education for the client. (Each topic of education is worth one point)</p>	
<p><b>Criteria</b></p>	<p><b>Excellent 10 points</b></p>	<p><b>Acceptable 8-9 points</b></p>	<p><b>Unacceptable 0-7 points</b></p>	<p><b>Points Earned</b></p>
<p>Is there anything about this medication regimen/ scenario that might indicate a potential difficulty in maintaining compliance with the orders as listed?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Why would the patient have difficulty maintaining the medication regiment?</li> </ul> <p>(Please consider all factors in the scenario and all information provided within your chart – including cost, insurance, frequency of administration, etc.)</p>	<p>Student had knowledge on why a patient would have difficulty with medication regiment</p>	<p>The student indicated some potential reasons that the client may have difficulty, however the student failed to indicate a reason OR an appropriate reason for some of the medications (This question is worth one point for each medication)</p>	<p>Student failed to answer the question OR the student indicated some potential reasons that the client may have difficulty, however the student failed to indicate a reason OR an appropriate reason for some of the medications (This question is worth one</p>	<p>___/10</p>

<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Excellent 10 points</b>	<b>Acceptable 8-9 points</b>	<b>Unacceptable 0-7 points</b>	<b>Points Earned</b>
<p>Is there anything about this medication regimen/ scenario that might assist the client in maintaining the medication regimen as ordered?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What factors are present to remain compliant?</li> </ul> <p>(Please consider all factors in the scenario and all information provided within your chart – including cost, insurance, frequency of administration, etc.</p>	Student had knowledge on medication compliance	The student answered the question appropriately for some of the medications but failed to indicate all of the factors that are present that assist with compliance. (This question is worth one point for each medication)	<p>point for each medication)</p> <p>Student failed to answer the question OR The student answered the question appropriately for some of the medications but failed to indicate all of the factors that are present that assist with compliance. (This question is worth one point for each medication)</p>	___/10
<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Excellent 10 points</b>	<b>Acceptable 8-9 points</b>	<b>Unacceptable 0 points</b>	<b>Points Earned</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How much would this medication cost per month if the patient were to pay for them out of pocket? (best assessment based off of research)</li> <li>• What would the client's monthly out</li> </ul>	Student showed research on medication costs	The student provided accurate research for some of the medications, but failed to provided research for all medications (This question is worth one point for each medication, with the total cost being worth 5 points)	Student failed to answer the question OR The student provided accurate research for some of the medications, but failed to	___/15

<p>of pocket expense for all 10 medications?</p>			<p>provided research for all medications (This question is worth one point for each medication, with the total cost being worth 5 points)</p>	
<p><b>Criteria</b></p>	<p><b>Excellent 20 points</b></p>	<p><b>Acceptable 16-19 points</b></p>	<p><b>Unacceptable 0-15 points</b></p>	<p><b>Points Earned</b></p>
<p>The student must appropriately format the paper and include all of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Entire document must include appropriate citations, reference page, title page, page numbers, running head, all with appropriate formatting per APA (10 points – each missing or inaccurate portion per APA is worth one point)</li> <li>The student provided a rubric attached for grading</li> </ul>	<p>The document included a title page, the rubric, the client scenario, a reference page which included five references that were cited within the document. APA formatting was consistent with the APA manual.</p>	<p>The document did not meet all of the criteria for formatting/ referencing. See “criteria” to the left for further breakdown.</p>	<p>The document did not meet all of the criteria for formatting/ referencing. See “criteria” to the left for further breakdown.</p>	<p>___/20</p>

<p>(3 points)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The student included the provided client scenario on page two of the document</li> </ul> <p>(2 points)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The paper included a minimum of five references which were cited within the document (each reference with one citation is worth 5 points)</li> </ul>				
<p><b>Criteria</b></p>	<p><b>Excellent 20 points</b></p>	<p><b>Acceptable 16-19 points</b></p>	<p><b>Unacceptable 0-15 points</b></p>	<p><b>Points Earned</b></p>
<p>What suggestions might you make to the prescriber and/or client (or questions you might ask the prescriber) to help this client scenario? (think about decreasing the potential for interaction(s) through medication reduction, other potential medications, diet changes, lifestyle changes, etc.)</p> <p>Elaborate on this, explaining why you feel it should be addressed, why it</p>	<p>The student was able to identify one potential idea or question to present to the prescriber or client. This question showed evidence of good critical thinking.</p>	<p>The student was able to identify one potential idea or question to present to the prescriber or client, however there was a much higher priority question/suggestion/issue within the scenario that should have been addressed.</p>	<p>The student failed to answer the question OR the student answered the question, however the students answer was dangerously inaccurate.</p>	<p>____/20</p>

is priority and provide evidence behind your presentation.				
<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Excellent 10 points</b>	<b>Acceptable 8-9 points</b>	<b>Unacceptable 0-7 points</b>	<b>Points Earned</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reflective statement of experience should include the following:           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-insight into the project itself (a specific example within the project and its implications)</li> <li>-A basic understanding of polypharmacy</li> <li>-A reflection on this student nurses role in this scenario as a client advocate/educator/caregiver</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	The students provided reflection showed good insight into the project itself, polypharmacy, and the nurses role in client advocacy	The student provided a reflection, however the reflection lacked one of the following <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-insight into the project itself (a specific example within the project and its implications).</li> <li>-A basic understanding of polypharmacy</li> <li>-A reflection on this student nurses role in this scenario as a client advocate/educator/caregiver</li> </ul>	Student failed to reflect on their project OR the student addressed only of the topics of reflection	___/10
<b>Total Points</b>				___/200

