

## **A comparison of medication administration errors from original medication packaging and multi-compartment compliance aids in care homes: a prospective observational study.**

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Gilmartin-Thomas JF-M, Smith F, Wolfe R, et al. A comparison of medication administration errors from original medication packaging and multi-compartment compliance aids in care homes: A prospective observational study. *Int J Nurs Stud.* 2017;72:15-23. doi:10.1016/j.ijnurstu.2017.03.008.

<https://psnet.ahrq.gov/issue/comparison-medication-administration-errors-original-medication-packaging-and-multi>

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This prospective, direct-observation study examined medication administration accuracy of medications dispensed by [nurses](#) and caregivers in [long-term care](#) facilities. Investigators compared medication administration from original medication packaging to administration from [multicompartment medication devices](#). The team observed nearly 2500 doses. When medications were dispensed from original packaging, the medication administration error rate was 9%. When multicompartment devices were used, the medication administration error rate was 3%. This difference persisted in settings where both original packaging and multicompartment medication devices were used. This study adds to the evidence about how [literacy-friendly](#) health systems can enhance [medication safety](#).