WELFORD CHART NOTES
NEWSLETTER

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MEDICATION POLYPHARMACY OPTION *(User's Manual, pgs. 1418-1419)*

Having patients on numerous medications increases the risks of drug interactions and adverse drug events. You can arrange for **Welford Chart Notes** to remind you when you have a patient on a number of medications which exceeds the number that you choose. This allows you to be aware that you are prescribing for a patient where polypharmacy may be an issue and pay more attention to whether all of the medications on the list still need to be continued. Let's see how to do this:
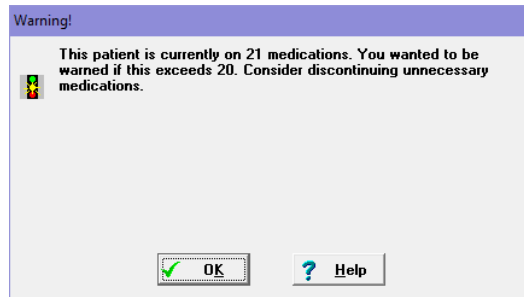
1. Press System\ Medication Options.
2. Check **Warn about polypharmacy.**
3. Set "**if more than <n> medications**" to a number that you feel is appropriate. In this example, set it to 20.
4. Press **OK** to store this Option.

Now, let's see how this works:
1. Press Write\Medications.
2. Enter Kelly Erickson as the name of the patient.
3. Press **Add.**
4. Enter a medication and press **OK**.
5. Repeat steps 3-4 until the patient is on 21 medications.
6. Press **Cancel** to close Medication\Add.
7. Press **Cancel** to close the Medication Editor.
8. Press Write\Medications.
9. Enter Kelly Erickson as the name of the patient.

10. You now see the following warning:

11. Press **OK** to close the Warning.
12. Look at the Medication Editor list to see if there are any medications that you might be able to safely discontinue.

Drug	Instruction	Start date	Stop date	C
acetaminophen	325 mg po q4h prn prn pain	2-22-2018		
allopurinol	300 mg po qhs	2-22-2018		
aspirin	81 mg po daily	2-22-2018		
atorvastatin	40 mg po qhs	2-22-2018		
clopidogrel	75 mg po daily	2-22-2018		
digoxin	0.125 mg po qd	2-22-2018		
diphenhydramine	25 mg po qhs prn sleep	2-22-2018		
docusate	100 mg po bid	2-22-2018		
fluticasone	one squirt each naris bid	2-22-2018		
furosemide	40 mg po qam	1-27-2013		
glipizide	5 mg po bid	2-22-2018		
lisinopril	10 mg po qd	5-16-2017		
metformin	500 mg po bid	1-28-2013		▯
metoprolol XL	50 mg po qam	2-22-2018		
multivitamin	i po qd	2-22-2018		
naproxen	500 mg po bid prn pain	2-22-2018		
nitroglycerin	0.4 mg sublingual prn chest pain	2-22-2018		
sertraline	50 mg po qd	2-22-2018		
tiotropium	one puff bid	2-22-2018		
trazodone	50 mg po qhs prn sleep	2-22-2018		
zolpidem	5 mg po qhs prn sleep	2-22-2018		

Medication Editor for KELLY ERICKSON (D.O.B. 8-15-1950)   Active Drugs

Brochures History Options Rx Log Rx Writer
Cancel Help All Add Delete Edit None Stop Utility Vaccine

Note that the warning occurs only when you open the Medication Editor, not as you add each new medication. The reason is that you would not want to be repeatedly warned as you entered a patient's list of medications for the first time each time you exceeded your chosen maximum number of medications.

If you have tips, shortcuts, questions, or suggestions for future newsletter topics, please send them to us at:

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