

Optional Flip Chart Activity: Identifying Medication Errors

- Read the news story aloud to the participants.
- Ask participants what the errors were.
- Write answers on a flip chart.
- After making a list, talk about each error and ask participants how that particular error can be prevented.

News Story

November 3, 1998

An assistant director gave medicine to a teacher who admitted she did not read the label on the medicine until after she put the drops in the child's eyes at about 1 pm, the notice states. When she realized she had put eardrops in a child's eyes, she notified the assistant director about what happened. She said the assistant director dismissed the incident and said it was no big deal, the notice states. Only after the 4-year-old's mother noticed that his eyes were red and swollen was he taken to the emergency room at UNC hospitals and then treated in the hospital's eye care center. It is unclear how badly he was injured, though he can still see. The center's history of problems, along with the eardrops incident in June, led to the revocation, said Talitha Wright, chief of regulatory services with the Division of Child Development. "It's pretty significant when someone puts eardrops into a child's eyes, and when the medicine wasn't even meant for that child," she said.

Sources: Price J. State pulls child-care center's license for second time. *The Chapel Hill News*. November 3, 1998.

Velliquette, B. KinderCare's license revoked. *The Chapel Hill Herald*. November 3, 1998.

Errors	Solutions
1. Wrong child	1. Know the child
2. Wrong medication	2. Double check the 5 rights
3. Wrong route	3. Check the label and the permission form
4. Wrong documentation	4. Fill out a medication incident report
5. Did not seek emergency medical care	5. Follow emergency procedures
6. Did not notify parent/guardian	6a. Notify parent/guardian
	6b. Develop and document a follow-up plan