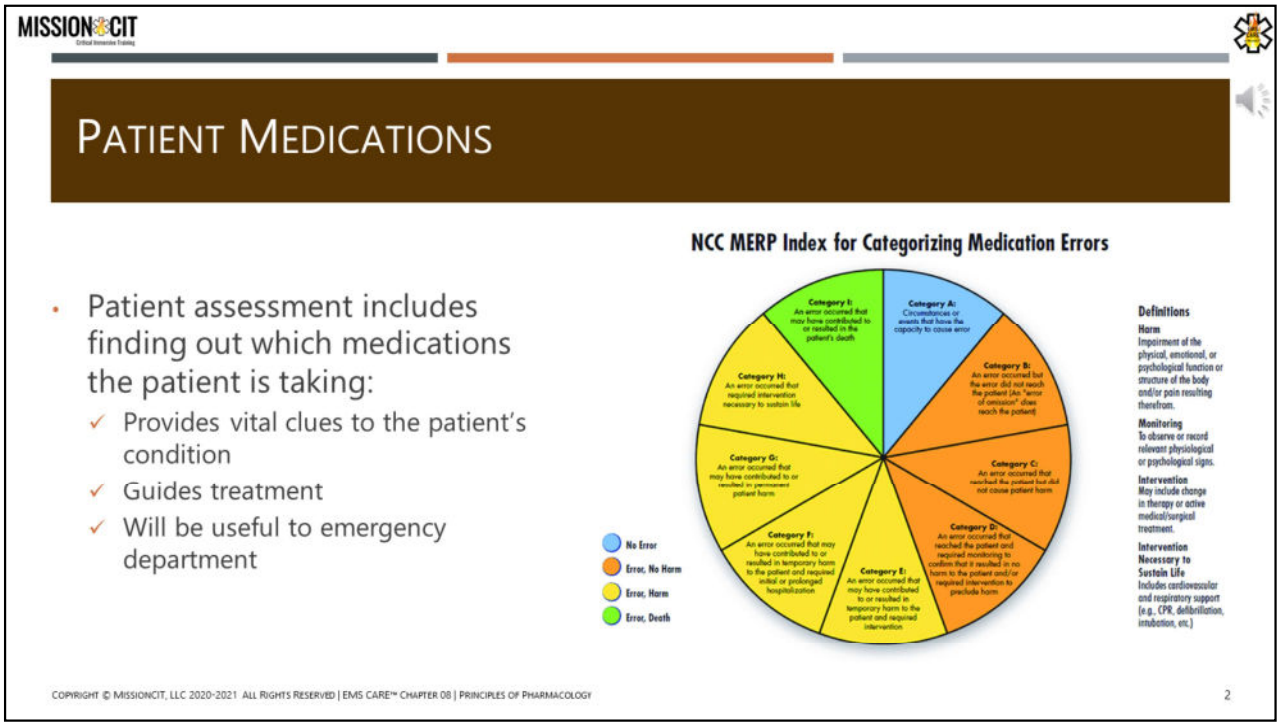


Thank you Justin.

In this last lesson, we examine the possibility as well as the inevitability of medication inaccuracies. We discuss processes to avoid mistakes. And we emphasize the requirement for transparency should an error occur.

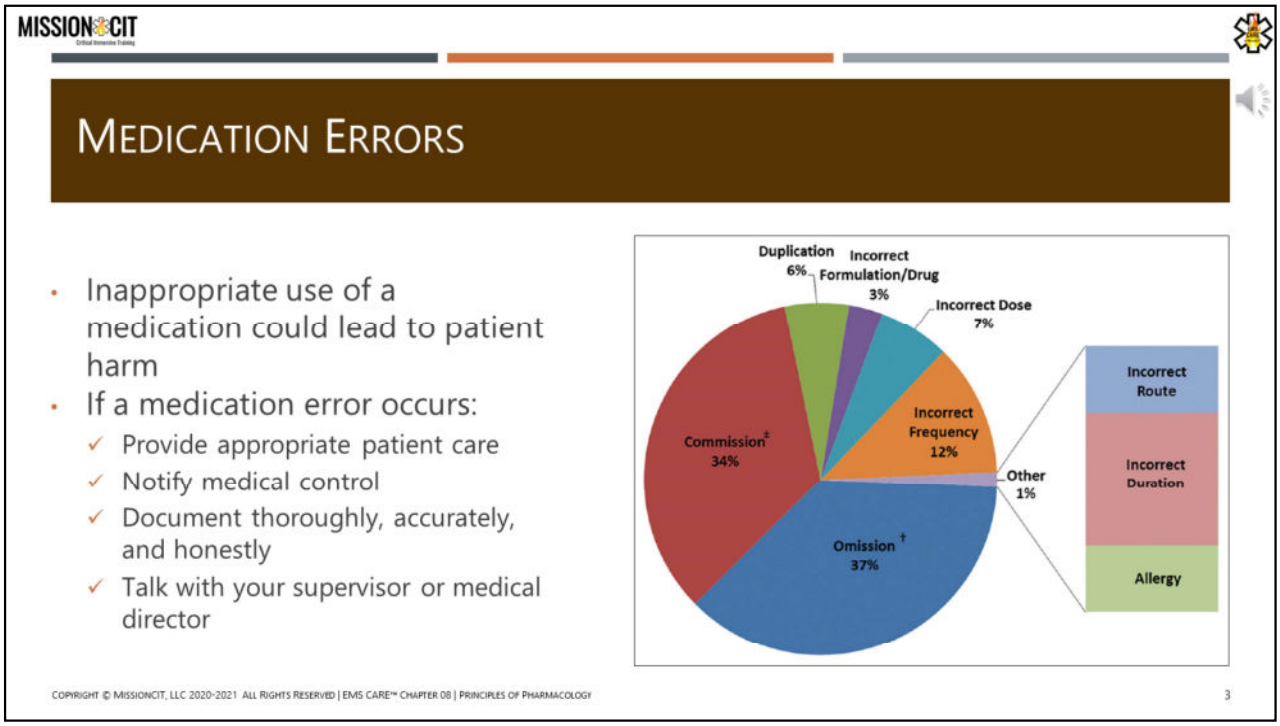
Good Studying



Before administering any medication, do a basic assessment of the patient that includes the medications that he or she is currently taking. This assessment will help you to get a good idea of the patient's current health condition, and may guide you to administer the right medications. This becomes even more important if you work in the emergency department.

Understanding what medications are used for what conditions is important to help you determine a chronic or the underlying condition of a patient, especially if he or she is unconscious or is unable to provide accurate

information.
If the patient requires a regular dosage of drugs, make sure they are available in the emergency department.
Also, make a note of any non-prescription drugs that a patient may be taking such as OTC drugs, herbal remedies, and illegal drugs.
Overall, gather as much information as possible about a patient's medical history and medication use, as this will come in handy while administering medications.



Medication errors are serious problems that can occur when inappropriate medications are administered to a patient. Take every possible precaution and understand the local rules and protocols to avoid medication errors. Knowing a patient's history and basic knowledge about the drugs that a patient is using, can reduce the chances of errors.

Also, make sure the environment is conducive enough to administer the right drugs. Check if the lighting is sufficient, organize the necessary equipment before you start administering the medications, limit distractions,

and use a cheat sheet if needed to remember the steps for administration.
Despite these efforts and good intentions, if a medication error has occurred, provide the immediate support that the patient would need and inform the medical control room immediately. In the meantime, document every action accurately and honestly to help doctors to provide the right treatment.
Above everything, use every opportunity to learn and to improve your knowledge, so you can provide a better quality of service.
With this, we have come to the end of this topic.
If you have questions, please notice the left hand column on this page; and use the tab named: ‘browse Q and A: Here you can view other student’s questions and responses; or ask your own.
Thank you for joining us and good studying!