



## WHY DOES THIS HAPPEN?

*People with Alzheimer's or another dementia might:*

- forget to take their medications
- forget that they took their medication, so they take them again and again and again
- get sick or be poisoned because the wrong pills or too many pills were taken

**Alzheimer's**  
ORANGE COUNTY

**Helpline**

**844-373-4400**

**alzoc.org**

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# Medications

People with Alzheimer's or another dementia may need help with taking their medicine. Taking too much... or too little... or not following the directions... can be dangerous.

## WHAT CAN YOU DO?

### Watch Closely

- make sure he or she
  - takes the right number of pills at the right times
  - follows the directions on the medication
- do not leave medications in a pill box or cup on the counter
- do not leave him or her alone to take their medicine

### Lock Away Medicine

- make sure all medications are out of sight and out of reach

### Talk to ALL the Doctors

- do not stop giving any medicine without asking the prescribing doctor first
- bring all medicines in a bag or box to every doctor
  - include vitamins, herbs, teas, creams, and other pills from the drugstore
- ask the doctor if medicines can be mixed into foods or drinks
  - this is helpful if you are having trouble getting your person to take their pills

**NOTE:** If you notice sudden changes like violent behaviors or trouble with bathroom accidents, call the doctor.

- these changes could be caused by a reaction to a medication or a new illness