

# Your Voice Matters: Residents and Families Have an Important Role in Medication Safety



**Did you know that mistakes with medications happen sometimes?**

**You can be a part of the important decisions about your care.**

**You can play an important role in the medication safety team.**



The Ontario Ministry of Long-Term Care (MLTC) is partnering with the Institute for Safe Medication Practices Canada (ISMP Canada) for 3 years to support long-term care homes in strengthening medication safety. This work will include addressing Justice Gillese's recommendations related to detecting potential medication incidents that would otherwise go unnoticed.

**The Strengthening Medication Safety in LTC Initiative is funded by the Ontario Ministry of Long-Term Care. Views expressed are the views of ISMP Canada and do not necessarily reflect those of the province.**

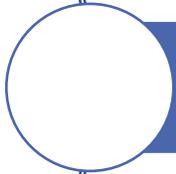
It can be a long road from the time you are prescribed a medication until the time it reaches you.

What Happens	What it Means for You
<b>Prescribing</b>	
A doctor or nurse practitioner prescribes medication.	<b>Share</b> your health goals with them! You are a partner in your care.
↓	
<b>Dispensing</b>	
A pharmacist dispenses your medication.	They check to make sure you are receiving the correct medication.
↓	
<b>Storage</b>	
The medication is safely stored in your Home.	The nurse makes sure your medication is correct and puts it in a safe location.
↓	
<b>Administration</b>	
The nurse brings your medication to you.	If there is a problem or if you have a question, <b>ask!</b>

# Questions You Can Ask About Your Medication



Will I have side effects?



Will this make me sleepy?



Do I take this for a short time or will I be on it forever?



## What if my medication doesn't look right?

Tell someone. It could be your nurse, a personal support worker or a caregiver.

Do not take the medication until you feel it is safe to do so.

Share your ideas about how to prevent an error from happening again.

Report the error to ISMP Canada at [www.mederror.ca](http://www.mederror.ca)

Your ideas and perspective about medication are important. Share your ideas with us at [LTC@ismpcanada.ca](mailto:LTC@ismpcanada.ca).

Learn more: <https://www.ismp-canada.org/LTC/>

