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3 **Title: Medication Non-Adherence and Errors**
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5 **Introduced by: Adrian J. Christie, MD, for the Macomb County Delegation**
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7 **Original Author: Stanley B. Wolfe, MD**
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9 **Referred to: Reference Committee B**
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11 **House Action: Adopted**
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14 **Whereas, the Center for Disease Control reported in the New England**
15 **Journal of Medicine, November 11, 2011, that about 99,628 U.S. seniors are**
16 **hospitalized each year because of drug adverse events; diabetes drugs and**
17 **blood thinners were the cause of two thirds of these hospitalizations, and**
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19 **Whereas, it is estimated that one half of all patients omit or take**
20 **medications incorrectly, and**
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22 **Whereas, more than half of adults with high blood pressure are not under**
23 **control, possibly due to failure to take medications correctly, and**
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25 **Whereas, based on a randomized clinical trial in out-patients at Walter**
26 **Reed Medical Center, mean age 77 years, taking medications for hypertension**
27 **and hypercholesterolemia, compared the usual dispensing to a pharmacy care**
28 **program with timed calendar blister packs for medications plus counseling by**
29 **the dispensing pharmacist. After six months there was improved adherence**
30 **from 61 percent to 97 percent with meaningful reduction of blood pressure¹,**
31 **and**
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33 **Whereas, many seniors use mail ordered prescriptions to save money**
34 **but receive inadequate pharmacy counseling and refuse a prescription for a**
35 **blister pack at a local pharmacy due to extra cost; therefore be it**
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37 **RESOLVED: That our AMA work with the Centers for Medicare and**
38 **Medicaid Services (CMS) or seek federal legislation to require Medicare to**
39 **provide the option of prescribing, according to patient need, timed calendar**
40 **blister packs, to be filled locally with pharmacist counseling with no or minimal**
41 **extra cost to the patient.**
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44 **WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE: NONE**

¹ Effect of a Pharmacy Care Program on Medication Adherence and Persistence, Blood Pressure, and Low Density Lipoprotein Cholesterol A Randomized Controlled Trial Jeannie K. Lee, PharmD; Karen A. Grace, PharmD; Allen J. Taylor, MD JAMA. 2006;296(21):2563-2571)