



ABSOLUTE SCOOP

DID YOU KNOW?

There is an increased risk of medication errors at transitions of care; Absolute Pharmacy's Admission Medication Review program can help!

ADMISSION MEDICATION REVIEW (AMR)

Written by Erica Melegari, AMR Program Administrator

Absolute Pharmacy offers a comprehensive medication review service for all new admissions and readmissions. The goal of our Admission Medication Review (AMR) program is to identify transcription errors, duplicate therapy, high doses, omitted medications, and other issues that could result in immediate harm to the resident, rehospitalization, or the receipt of a costly citation during a state survey.

A thorough medication regimen review completed directly following an admission or readmission provides the unique opportunity to address a variety of discrepancies or recommendations before major errors occur.

Year in Review

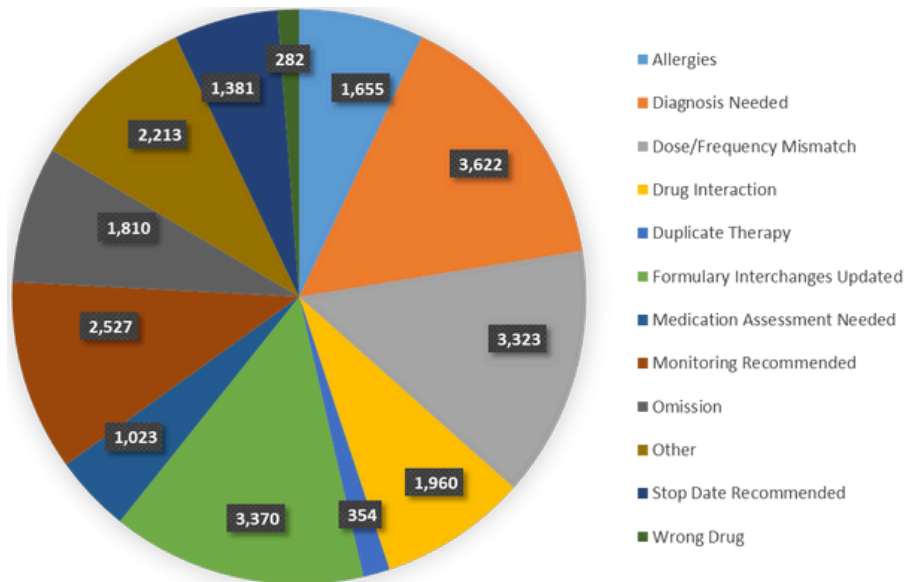
- 8,341 AMR's were completed in 2023!
- 1,504 reviews were marked clinically significant (18%).
- Total number of Issues/Recommendations cited: 23,520 – on average, 3 per review.

Top 3 AMR Error/Recommendation Categories

- Diagnosis Needed (3,622)
- Notice of Formulary Interchange (3,370)
- Dose/Frequency Mismatch (3,323)

Why are diagnoses important?

Not only can missing diagnoses affect your insurance reimbursement, but it may also hinder our pharmacy's ability to accurately assess the appropriateness of the medication being prescribed. Due to added scrutiny, special attention has been given to antipsychotic medications to confirm that the appropriate ICD-10 diagnosis code has been obtained, entered, and verified by an appropriate prescriber.



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Why would a notice of formulary interchange be noted?

When applicable, some medications may formulary interchange to a drug in the same therapeutic class that can provide significant cost savings to the facility. In the event that a resident's MAR has not been updated to the newly dispensed medication, a recommendation would be added to the AMR form. A signed formulary may not be sufficient to prevent a citation during a state survey if the medication being administered does not match what is documented on the resident's MAR.

Clinically Significant Dose/Frequency Mismatch Examples:

- Lamotrigine 50mg twice daily was ordered on the discharge summary but the medication was entered as once daily on the eMAR.
- Cephalexin was ordered for 7 doses on the discharge summary but was entered for a duration of 5 days on the eMAR which would exceed the number of doses ordered.
- Modafinil 100mg was ordered on the dc summary but 200mg was entered on the eMAR.
- Sevelamer 800mg – 2 tablets (1600mg) three times daily was ordered on the discharge summary but a single 800mg tablet was entered on the eMAR.
- Metoprolol Tartrate 25mg was ordered every 12 hours PRN for heart rate greater than 130 on the dc summary but the medication was added with instructions to give every 12 hours routinely on the eMAR.
- Bupropion XL 24 hour formula was ordered at the previous facility but the SR 12 hour formula was selected upon entry to the eMAR.

**For current pricing information and questions about enrollment, email:
medreview@abshealth.com**

About the Author



Outside of work, Erica enjoys spending time with her husband and two children. They can all be found spending time amongst nature at the beach or at the Savannah National Wildlife Refuge.

Erica has been with Absolute for almost 9 years. She started as a technician in our data entry department and was promoted to Pharmacist Assistant where she was able to support the pharmacy team with higher level tasks and projects. When the Admission Medication Review (AMR) program started in 2018, Erica quickly took over the administrative management of the program including process development, reporting, and expansion to what we offer to our facilities today. Erica understands the importance and impact of pharmacy interventions during transitions of care and loves to support our facilities with this integral program. We feel lucky to have Erica as part of the Absolute Pharmacy team!

What do you call a bee that can't make up its mind?

A maybe.



Why is the letter A like a flower?

Because a "b" comes after it.