

Poll Questions

December 2017 Drug Interactions — How to Avoid Them

Questions were answered by respondents age 50–80.

Throughout the survey, the term “doctor” refers to a health care provider (physician, specialist, physician assistant or nurse practitioner).

Q1. In the last year, how many different doctors have you seen?

1. 0
2. 1
3. 2
4. 3
5. 4 or more

Q2. How many different prescription medications are you currently taking?

1. 0 [End Survey]
2. 1
3. 2–3
4. 4–5
5. 6 or more

Q3. At what type of pharmacies did you fill your prescriptions?

[Yes/No for each statement]

1. Retail pharmacy (drugstore or pharmacy within a store)
2. Hospital/clinic pharmacy
3. Mail order or Internet pharmacy

Q4. In the past 2 years, at how many different retail pharmacies have you filled prescriptions?

1. 1
2. 2
3. 3 or more

Q5. Why did you use this retail pharmacy?

1. Convenience
2. Best price
3. Pharmacist there to answer questions
4. Services like home delivery, drive through
5. Takes my insurance
6. Prescriptions automatically sent there by doctor’s office
7. Other

You indicated you have filled prescriptions at 2 or more retail pharmacies.

Q6. Which statement best describes how you fill prescriptions now?

1. Transferred all my prescriptions to one pharmacy
2. Go to different locations of the same pharmacy chain
3. Fill different prescriptions at each of the pharmacies
4. Mainly fill prescriptions at one pharmacy

Q7. Why did you fill your prescriptions at more than one pharmacy?

1. More convenient location
2. Better price
3. Special offer/rewards program
4. Free/discounted medications
5. Medication not available at one of the pharmacies
6. Other

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Q8. Please compare retail pharmacies and mail order/Internet pharmacies in terms of:

a. price

1. Retail is better
2. Mail is better
3. About the same

b. quality of medication

1. Retail is better
2. Mail is better
3. About the same

c. helping you know how to take your medication

1. Retail is better
2. Mail is better
3. About the same

A drug interaction occurs when medications taken at the same time interfere with each other, affecting how well they work. This can happen with prescription, over-the-counter, and herbal medications.

Q9. When you fill a prescription, do you think the pharmacist knows about all of your medications and how they interact.

1. Definitely Yes
2. Probably Yes
3. No
4. Don't know

Q10. In your opinion, who is responsible for talking to you about possible drug interactions?

1. the doctor
2. the pharmacist
3. both equally responsible

Q11. In the past 2 years, have you talked with anyone about drug interactions?

1. Yes
2. No
3. Don't know

Q12. Who did you talk with?

1. Doctor
2. Nurse
3. Pharmacist
4. Other person

Q13. How confident are you that you know how to avoid drug interactions?

1. Very confident
2. Mostly confident
3. Somewhat confident
4. Not confident

Participants were also asked demographic questions on age, gender, health status and insurance status.

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