

## **Why Medication can be Dangerous**

Canada has a rapidly growing number of patients who are older and who have chronic diseases and multiple medications. This makes our healthcare increasingly complex as we care for these people. Since we have so many adults now taking different medications problems can occur when the patient does not take the medication correctly. 1 in 9 adults who visit the emergency department do so as a result of a medication-related adverse event and 1 in 3 of these will be admitted.

Modern medications help millions of patients every year, but when problems occur, people can be put into danger. It is very important that healthcare professionals, patients and families all play a role in improving communication about medications.