



MEDICATION REMINDER EQUIPMENT AND SERVICES

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Background Information

One of the greatest single challenges facing professional workers in both Health and Social Care settings is effective medication management for their service users.

Only 50% people take their medicines adequately, resulting in a cost to the government in untaken medicines of more than £100 million annually.

Compliance

*UK has about 42 million patients on prescription medications.
1 in 6 “fully” adhered,
1 in 3 adhered “satisfactorily,”
1 in 6 adhered “poorly.”
(A Pharmaceutical conference in 2008)*

Effective control of many medical conditions relies on the patient regularly taking their prescribed medications.

Health Service aims for the future contain much about the necessity for people to take ownership of their health conditions and make a positive contribution through self management.

There are many reasons for poor patient adherence, including practical, psychological and social hurdles.

There is, without doubt, a particular challenge in achieving medication compliance amongst those who are unwilling to medicate which is difficult to address.


There are also challenges in relation to those who simply forget to take their medications, get them mixed up or cannot differentiate one medicine from another –this is easier to address.


Ineffective medication management results in unnecessary exacerbations’ of long term health conditions and often unnecessary admissions to hospital, often to acute medical beds at costs of up to £1000 per day.


This list of medication reminder devices and services has been put together to offer some advice about options which are currently available to tackle some of the foregoing issues.


The list is by no means exhaustive and there is no doubt that there will be many additions in this area of the technology market in the future because of the efficiencies and positive outcomes which can be achieved across both Health and Social Care organisations through more effective medication management.


The inclusion of any device or service should not be seen as carrying any personal or professional recommendation on the part of the writers but rather offering a suggestion of a device or devices which may assist an individual following an appropriate assessment of need and risk.


<p align="center">NAME OF EQUIPMENT/SERVICE</p>	<p align="center">CareCall Solutions Reminder Call</p>	
<p>HOW IT WORKS</p>	<p>Medication reminder telephone calls to individuals at home, up to 6 times per day. If no response from the individual, up to 3 text messages or 3 emails to responders (e.g. carers/family members)</p>	
<p>PHYSICAL ABILITY</p>	<p>Ability to pick up phone and press button. Ability to access and take medication independently.</p>	
<p>COGNITIVE ABILITY</p>	<p>Ability to understand and respond to a simple telephone call. Motivated to self medicate.</p>	
<p>RESPONSE REQUIRED</p>	<p>Carer and/or family.</p>	
<p>PORTABILITY</p>	<p>N/A</p>	
<p>LIMITATIONS</p>	<p>Needs to be used with a Land-line. No confirmation that individual has taken medication.</p>	
<p>SET-UP</p>	<p>Very simple, takes only a few minutes and starts instantly. Need 1 carer mobile number and 1 carer e-mail address</p>	
<p>MAINTENANCE</p>	<p>N/A</p>	
<p>PHARMACY COMMENTS</p>	<p>Medicines stored in original containers which is ideal</p>	
<p>SUPPLIER DETAILS</p>	<p>www.telecaretechnology.com Telecare Technology, 17 Eastmead Lane, Stoke Bishop, Bristol. BS9 1HW Tel: 0117 3357999</p>	
<p>COST</p>	<p>Quarterly in advance from £1.99 per week</p>	


NAME OF EQUIPMENT/SERVICE	Talking Labels	
HOW IT WORKS	Labels affix to vital medication. A 20 second message is played if you press a button on the talking label.	
PHYSICAL ABILITY	Ability to press button to hear message. Ability to access and take medication independently.	
COGNITIVE ABILITY	Ability to understand how and when to press button. Motivated to self medicate.	
RESPONSE REQUIRED	None	
PORTABILITY	Yes	
LIMITATIONS	No external alert to others. No confirmation that individual has taken medication.	
SET-UP	Attaching labels to medication or other items. Recording messages requires good vision and dexterity.	
MAINTENANCE	4 AE10 Button Cell batteries. Dependent on the length of message and number of times it is played back. E.g. a 20 second message played once per day could result in the batteries lasting approximately 4 months.	
PHARMACY COMMENTS	Medicines stored in original containers which is ideal	
SUPPLIER DETAILS	Talking Products Ltd. info@TalkingProducts.com 210 Mauritania Road, Nursling Industrial Estate Southampton SO16 07S Tel. 02380 730731 Fax. 02380 750227	
COST	£5.00 + self adhesive or magnetic adaptor for label for £0.60	


<p align="center">NAME OF EQUIPMENT/SERVICE</p>	<p align="center">Pill Box Reminder Pendant</p>	
<p>HOW IT WORKS</p>	<p>A pocket sized, compartment pill box on a cord. Slides open to permit access to tablets stored in two large compartments. Timer device with sound and flashing alert.</p>	
<p>PHYSICAL ABILITY</p>	<p>Ability to access and take medication independently.</p>	
<p>COGNITIVE ABILITY</p>	<p>Ability to understand and respond to the alerts. Motivated to self medicate.</p>	
<p>RESPONSE REQUIRED</p>	<p>None</p>	
<p>PORTABILITY</p>	<p>Yes</p>	
<p>LIMITATIONS</p>	<p>No external alert to others. Only 2 compartments. No confirmation that individual has taken medication.</p>	
<p>SET-UP</p>	<p>Requires good vision and dexterity to set up reminder.</p>	
<p>MAINTENANCE</p>	<p>Watch-style battery 1 x 1.5V cell, LR44 Recommend battery change at 6-month intervals.</p>	
<p>PHARMACY COMMENTS</p>	<p>Issues: Risk of error due to secondary dispensing Cleanliness of device after repeated use Suitability, stability and safety of medicines Identification of medicines</p>	
<p>SUPPLIER DETAILS</p>	<p>FREEPOST RRZH ETSC KZHB Nottingham Rehab Supplies, Clinitron House, Excelsior Road, Ashby De La Zouch. Leicester. LE65 1JG</p>	
<p>COST</p>	<p>£9.99</p>	


<p align="center">NAME OF EQUIPMENT/SERVICE</p>	<p align="center">Time Cue</p>	
<p>HOW IT WORKS</p>	<p>Provides a single message of up to 10 seconds, once per day with a picture cue.</p>	
<p>PHYSICAL ABILITY</p>	<p>Ability to access and take medication independently.</p>	
<p>COGNITIVE ABILITY</p>	<p>Ability to understand and respond to the alerts. Motivated to self medicate.</p>	
<p>RESPONSE REQUIRED</p>	<p>None</p>	
<p>PORTABILITY</p>	<p>Yes</p>	
<p>LIMITATIONS</p>	<p>Only 1 reminder. No confirmation that individual has taken medication.</p>	
<p>SET-UP</p>	<p>Requires good vision and dexterity to set up reminder.</p>	
<p>MAINTENANCE</p>	<p>Requires 4 x AG13 watch-style batteries Recommend battery change at 6 month intervals or when there is distortion in the audio feedback.</p>	
<p>PHARMACY COMMENTS</p>	<p>Medicines stored in original containers which is ideal</p>	
<p>SUPPLIER DETAILS</p>	<p>www.inclusive.co.uk Inclusive Technology, Riverside Court, Huddersfield Road, Delph, Oldham. OL3 5FZ. Free phone: 0800 975 6090</p>	
<p>COST</p>	<p>£10.00</p>	

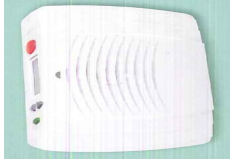
<p>NAME OF EQUIPMENT/SERVICE</p>	<p>Vibration 5 Alarm Pill Box</p>	
<p>HOW IT WORKS</p>	<p>A device with 5 compartments for pills with 5 different alarm sounds plus a vibration function.</p>	
<p>PHYSICAL ABILITY</p>	<p>Ability to press button to hear message. Ability to access and take medication independently.</p>	
<p>COGNITIVE ABILITY</p>	<p>Ability to understand and respond to the alerts. Motivated to self medicate.</p>	
<p>RESPONSE REQUIRED</p>	<p>None</p>	
<p>PORTABILITY</p>	<p>Yes</p>	
<p>LIMITATIONS</p>	<p>No external alert to others. No confirmation that individual has taken medication.</p>	
<p>SET-UP</p>	<p>Requires good vision and dexterity to set up reminders.</p>	
<p>MAINTENANCE</p>	<p>1 x AAA battery Recommend battery change at 6 month intervals</p>	
<p>PHARMACY COMMENTS</p>	<p>Issues: Risk of error due to secondary dispensing Cleanliness of device after repeated use Suitability, stability and safety of medicines Identification of medicines</p>	
<p>SUPPLIER DETAILS</p>	<p>FREEPOST RRZH ETSC KZHB Nottingham Rehab Supplies, Clinitron House, Excelsior Road, Ashby De La Zouch. Leicester. LE65 1JG</p>	
<p>COST</p>	<p>£14.35</p>	


<p>NAME OF EQUIPMENT/SERVICE</p>	<p>Tab Timer</p>	
<p>HOW IT WORKS</p>	<p>Up to 5 daily alarms at whatever times required. Easy to read LCD display. Countdown timer for regular reminders. Stand it, Hang it or Stick it.</p>	
<p>PHYSICAL ABILITY</p>	<p>Ability to access and take medication independently.</p>	
<p>COGNITIVE ABILITY</p>	<p>Ability to understand and respond to the alerts. Motivated to self medicate.</p>	
<p>RESPONSE REQUIRED</p>	<p>None</p>	
<p>PORTABILITY</p>	<p>Yes</p>	
<p>LIMITATIONS</p>	<p>No external alert to others. No confirmation that individual has taken medication.</p>	
<p>SET-UP</p>	<p>Easy to set & programme - 3 buttons control all functions</p>	
<p>MAINTENANCE</p>	<p>1 x AAA battery. Recommend battery change when figures fade, alarms mis-time.</p>	
<p>PHARMACY COMMENTS</p>	<p>Medicines stored in original containers which is ideal</p>	
<p>SUPPLIER DETAILS</p>	<p>Tabtime Ltd. 41 Park Lane Sandbach Cheshire CW11 1EN United Kingdom</p>	
<p>COST</p>	<p>Price £14.99 + P&P Prices include vat.</p>	


NAME OF EQUIPMENT/SERVICE	Voice Cue	
HOW IT WORKS	Provides up to 5 verbal reminders of up to 12 seconds twice per day. Can be worn on the body.	
PHYSICAL ABILITY	Ability to press button to hear message replay. Ability to access and take medication independently.	
COGNITIVE ABILITY	Ability to understand and respond to the alerts. Motivated to self medicate.	
RESPONSE REQUIRED	None	
PORTABILITY	Yes	
LIMITATIONS	Only 5 reminders. No confirmation that individual has taken medication.	
SET-UP	Requires good vision and dexterity to set up reminders.	
MAINTENANCE	Requires 2 x AAA batteries Recommend battery change at 3 month intervals or when there is distortion in the audio feedback.	
PHARMACY COMMENTS	Medicines stored in original containers which is ideal	
SUPPLIER DETAILS	www.inclusive.co.uk Inclusive Technology, Riverside Court, Huddersfield Road, Delph, Oldham. OL3 5FZ. Free phone: 0800 975 6090	
COST	£25.00	


<p>NAME OF EQUIPMENT/SERVICE</p>	<p>Cadex Watch</p>	
<p>HOW IT WORKS</p>	<p>Can be set for up to 12 alarms per day with programmable text reminder messages and snooze functions. Ability to log personal medical conditions, allergies, emergency contact details, blood group, GP details. Normal watch and date function.</p>	
<p>PHYSICAL ABILITY</p>	<p>Ability to access and take medication independently.</p>	
<p>COGNITIVE ABILITY</p>	<p>Ability to understand and respond to the alerts. Motivated to self medicate.</p>	
<p>RESPONSE REQUIRED</p>	<p>None</p>	
<p>PORTABILITY</p>	<p>Yes</p>	
<p>LIMITATIONS</p>	<p>Only 1 reminder. No confirmation that individual has taken medication.</p>	
<p>SET-UP</p>	<p>Takes a bit of time to set reminders.</p>	
<p>MAINTENANCE</p>	<p>Requires 1 x C032 watch-type battery Recommend battery change at 6 month intervals</p>	
<p>PHARMACY COMMENTS</p>	<p>Medicines stored in original containers which is ideal</p>	
<p>SUPPLIER DETAILS</p>	<p>www.pivotell.co.uk Pivotell PO Box 108, Saffron Walden, CB11 4WX</p>	
<p>COST</p>	<p>£66.00 including VAT</p>	


<p>NAME OF EQUIPMENT/SERVICE</p>	<p>WatchMinder 3</p>	
<p>HOW IT WORKS</p>	<p>For all wrist sizes - perfect for children, teens, and those with smaller wrists. 65 pre-programmed messages to choose from with 30 daily recurring alarms. Vibrating alert with "snooze repeat" feature. Waterproof. Training mode effective technique for monitoring and improving behaviour. Perfect for staying on top of a rehab programme.</p>	
<p>PHYSICAL ABILITY</p>	<p>Ability to access and take medication independently.</p>	
<p>COGNITIVE ABILITY</p>	<p>Ability to understand and respond to the alerts. Motivated to self medicate.</p>	
<p>RESPONSE REQUIRED</p>	<p>None</p>	
<p>PORTABILITY</p>	<p>Yes</p>	
<p>LIMITATIONS</p>	<p>No external alert to others. No confirmation that individual has taken medication.</p>	
<p>SET-UP</p>	<p>Easy on-screen programming Requires good vision and dexterity to set up reminder.</p>	
<p>MAINTENANCE</p>	<p>Rechargeable battery (with charger included) Charge battery overnight to maintain.</p>	
<p>PHARMACY COMMENTS</p>	<p>Medicines stored in original containers which is ideal</p>	
<p>SUPPLIER DETAILS</p>	<p>Tabtime Ltd. 41 Park Lane Sandbach Cheshire CW11 1EN United Kingdom</p>	
<p>COST</p>	<p>£ 69.99 + P&P Prices include vat.</p>	

<p>NAME OF EQUIPMENT/SERVICE</p>	<p>Sayphone Unit</p>	
<p>HOW IT WORKS</p>	<p>Community Alarm Unit which connects through the telephone to a 24/7 Control Room. Can be programmed to deliver up to 8 voice reminder messages at set times each day and notify the Control Room if the user fails to press the green button to confirm receipt of the message.</p>	
<p>PHYSICAL ABILITY REQUIRED</p>	<p>Ability to press button on the unit to acknowledge reminder. Ability to access and take medication independently.</p>	
<p>COGNITIVE ABILITY REQUIRED</p>	<p>Ability to understand and respond to the alerts. Motivated to self medicate.</p>	
<p>RESPONSE REQUIRED</p>	<p>Requires a third party to be notified if they do not confirm receipt of the reminder.</p>	
<p>PORTABILITY</p>	<p>None</p>	
<p>LIMITATIONS</p>	<p>No confirmation that individual has taken medication.</p>	
<p>SET-UP</p>	<p>Takes a bit of time to set reminders.</p>	
<p>MAINTENANCE</p>	<p>Electrical Supply</p>	
<p>PHARMACY COMMENTS</p>	<p>Medicines stored in original containers which is ideal</p>	
<p>SUPPLIER DETAILS</p>	<p>www.tynetec.co.uk Tynetec Ltd, Cowley Road, Blyth Riverside Business Park, Blyth. Northumberland. NE24 5TF. Telephone: 01670 352371</p>	
<p>COST</p>	<p>£112.00 + dependent on Control Room chosen to receive the alert there would be a weekly charge for monitoring and response</p>	

<p align="center">NAME OF EQUIPMENT/SERVICE</p>	<p align="center">Pivotell Automatic Pill Dispenser</p>	
<p>HOW IT WORKS</p>	<p>Automatically reminds about medication up to 28 times per day by an alarm which sounds for 1 hour or until tablets tipped out. Holds minimum of four days supply, maximum of 28 days. Unit can be locked, so that only the correct dosage is taken. Can alert a Control Room if the device is not tilted to remove the tablets. Suitable for those who may be confused and for whom the blister packs and dossette boxes are no longer a reliable way to access medication.</p>	
<p>PHYSICAL ABILITY</p>	<p>Ability to lift device and tilt medication into hand or container. (A tipper can be supplied for those with insufficient strength or limited dexterity to lift and dispense their medication).</p>	
<p>COGNITIVE ABILITY</p>	<p>Ability to understand and respond to the alerts. Motivated to self medicate.</p>	
<p>RESPONSE REQUIRED</p>	<p>Can be connected to a 24/7 Control Room.</p>	
<p>PORTABILITY</p>	<p>Yes</p>	
<p>LIMITATIONS</p>	<p>Individuals taking multiple medications may require 2 units. No confirmation that individual has taken medication. Additional carousels require to be purchased in order to have one in use and one at the pharmacy for filling.</p>	
<p>SET-UP</p>	<p>The unit is easily programmed and loaded, by the user, carer or relative.</p>	
<p>MAINTENANCE</p>	<p>Requires 4 x AA batteries. The Pivotell dispenser has an in built test function which should be activated periodically. Recommend battery change at 9 month intervals</p>	
<p>PHARMACY COMMENTS</p>	<p>Issues: Risk of error due to secondary dispensing Cleanliness of device after repeated use Suitability, stability and safety of medicines Identification of medicines</p>	
<p>SUPPLIER DETAILS</p>	<p>www.pivotell.co.uk Pivotell PO Box 108, Saffron Walden, CB11 4WX</p>	
<p>COST</p>	<p>£125.00 per unit + potential Control Room costs</p>	

NAME OF EQUIPMENT/SERVICE	Mem-X Reminder Device	
HOW IT WORKS	<p>A personal message recorder. Can record up to 90 x 10 second messages to play at a programmable date and time. Alarm tone alerts user to push the button to listen to a message. On a neck cord.</p>	
PHYSICAL ABILITY	<p>Ability to press button to hear message. Ability to access and take medication independently.</p>	
COGNITIVE ABILITY	<p>Ability to understand and respond to the alerts. Motivated to self medicate.</p>	
RESPONSE REQUIRED	None	
PORTABILITY	Yes	
LIMITATIONS	<p>No external alert to others. No confirmation that individual has taken medication.</p>	
SET-UP	Requires good vision and dexterity to set up reminders.	
MAINTENANCE	<p>1 x AAA battery</p> <p>Recommend battery change at 3-month intervals or when there is distortion of the audio feedback.</p>	
PHARMACY COMMENTS	Medicines stored in original containers which is ideal	
SUPPLIER DETAILS	<p>FREEPOST RRZH ETSC KZHB Nottingham Rehab Supplies, Clinitron House, Excelsior Road, Ashby De La Zouch. Leicester. LE65 1JG</p>	
COST	£249.99	

<p align="center">NAME OF EQUIPMENT/SERVICE</p>	<p align="center">PDA</p>	
<p>HOW IT WORKS</p>	<p>Touch screen mobile device with specific software to deliver a range of individualised prompts, reminders, tasks etc. Audio, written and visual feedback. Unlimited number of alerts/prompts. A sophisticated device, which offers multiple functionality for people with cognitive impairment. Individuals would have to meet set criteria for cognitive support.</p>	
<p>PHYSICAL ABILITY</p>	<p>Good manual dexterity. Ability to access and take medication independently.</p>	
<p>COGNITIVE ABILITY</p>	<p>Ability to understand and respond to the alerts. Motivated to self medicate.</p>	
<p>RESPONSE REQUIRED</p>	<p>None</p>	
<p>PORTABILITY</p>	<p>Yes</p>	
<p>LIMITATIONS</p>	<p>No confirmation that individual has taken medication.</p>	
<p>SET-UP</p>	<p>Takes a bit of time to set reminders.</p>	
<p>MAINTENANCE</p>	<p>Electrical Supply</p>	
<p>PHARMACY COMMENTS</p>	<p>Medicines stored in original containers which is ideal</p>	
<p>SUPPLIER DETAILS</p>	<p>www.hallidayjames.com Halliday James Ltd Ezekiel House, Ezekiel Lane Willenhall, West Midlands WV12 5QU Telephone 0121 661 6806</p>	
<p>COST</p>	<p>£1,000</p>	

<p align="center">NAME OF EQUIPMENT/SERVICE</p>	<p align="center">Telehealth Monitor</p>	
<p>HOW IT WORKS</p>	<p>A sophisticated multi-functional device installed in persons home to facilitate self management of long term conditions. Can be programmed to provide reminders via alarms and e-mails.</p>	
<p>PHYSICAL ABILITY</p>	<p>Ability to access and take medication independently.</p>	
<p>COGNITIVE ABILITY</p>	<p>Ability to understand and respond to the alerts. Motivated to self medicate.</p>	
<p>RESPONSE REQUIRED</p>	<p>None</p>	
<p>PORTABILITY</p>	<p>Some units are portable.</p>	
<p>LIMITATIONS</p>	<p>No confirmation that individual has taken medication.</p>	
<p>SET-UP</p>	<p>Takes a bit of time to set reminders.</p>	
<p>MAINTENANCE</p>	<p>Electrical Supply</p>	
<p>PHARMACY COMMENTS</p>	<p>Medicines stored in original containers which is ideal</p>	
<p>SUPPLIER DETAILS</p>	<p>Various</p>	
<p>COST</p>	<p>£1,000 - £2,500 plus web access.</p>	



*Working together to
Release Time to Care
in the Community*

