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Integration of a Pharmacist in a Pediatric Medical Home for Children with Medical Complexity

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What is the Beacon Program?
The Beacon Program at Children's Mercy Kansas City is a pediatric medical home for hundreds of children with medical complexity (CMC) and their siblings. Families are cared for by a comprehensive medical team, including a clinical pharmacist.

Why are Drug-Related Problems a Concern?
CMC require unique care, specialized attention, and benefit from a dedicated team to meet the needs of patients and caregivers. Drug-therapy related problems in complex, chronic conditions influence financial, institutional, and patient outcomes.

Why a Pharmacist?
- **Value-added medication services**
- Collaboration and delivery of comprehensive medication management
- **Optimize complex therapeutic regimens and patient outcomes** through evidence-based practices, medication adherence, coordination, and safety processes

How is the Pharmacist's Care Provided?
1. **Comprehensive medication reconciliation** through history provided by caregiver, outpatient pharmacy review, and chart review of specialty teams
2. **Adverse drug assessment**
3. **Systemic drug-utilization review of each medication**
   - Drug-disease contraindication
   - Drug-drug interaction
   - Drug-patient precaution
   - Dosing
   - Duration of therapy
   - Over-/underutilization
   - Dosage form modification
   - Adherence concerns
   - Monitoring warranted
4. **Patient education and development of personal, family-friendly medication lists**
5. **Coordination of care**
   - Inpatient admissions
   - Specialty services
   - Home healthcare
   - Prior authorization needs
   - Outpatient prescriptions and pharmacies
6. **Medication therapy services collaborative practice**

Significance
The integration of a pharmacist in a pediatric medical home for CMC allows for:
- Innovation
- Interdisciplinary collaboration
- Comprehensive medication management

Incorporation of family education and tangible medication plans promotes:
- Safe and consistent medication practices