

How common are medication-related errors in home care?

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In a questionnaire-based study published in *Pharmacology Research & Perspectives* that included 485 fully trained nurses of 107 home care services, nearly half of all nursing staff made at least one error within the

last year when administering medications.

In the study, 41.6% of nurses reported [medication errors](#) within a 12-month period, and 14.8% did not provide an answer. Medication errors experienced by patients include taking the wrong dose or quantity of a particular drug, as well as omission of a drug or taking unlicensed drugs.

Nurses who had attended medication training within the last 2 years were less likely to make errors.

"The study results underline the need for regularly recurring medication training for nurses to ensure a high level of patient safety—especially in the home care sector, as [nurses](#) are the only professional group on site," said lead author Sandra Strube-Lahmann, RN, MSc, Ph.D., of Charité—Universitätsmedizin Berlin, in Germany.

More information: Patient Safety in Homecare: A Multicenter Cross-sectional Study about Medication Errors and Medication Management of Nurses, *Pharmacology Research & Perspectives* (2022). [DOI: 10.1002/prp2.953](#)

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