



Mapping the medication journey to identify potential points of misadventure

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What is a medication journey?

So, why is this important?

What are we hoping to achieve here?

Who are 'we'?



Some statistics from Australia in 2019 on medication misadventures (estimated)

- 250,000 hospital admissions
- Cost of \$1.4 billion
- Additional 400,000 emergency department presentations
- It is estimated that 50% of this harm is preventable

(Data from Pharmaceutical Society of Australia 'Medicine Safety: Take Care')



What is medication safety?

‘Medication safety is focussed on one thing;
reducing preventable harm caused by medicines’

(2020 Medicine Safety Forum: Informing Australia’s 10th National Health Priority Area)



- What is the interaction between the medication journey and medication safety?
- Medication errors have been widely studied and attracted a great deal of scholarly attention, but a comprehensive map and identification of potential action points in the medication journey appears to be lacking.



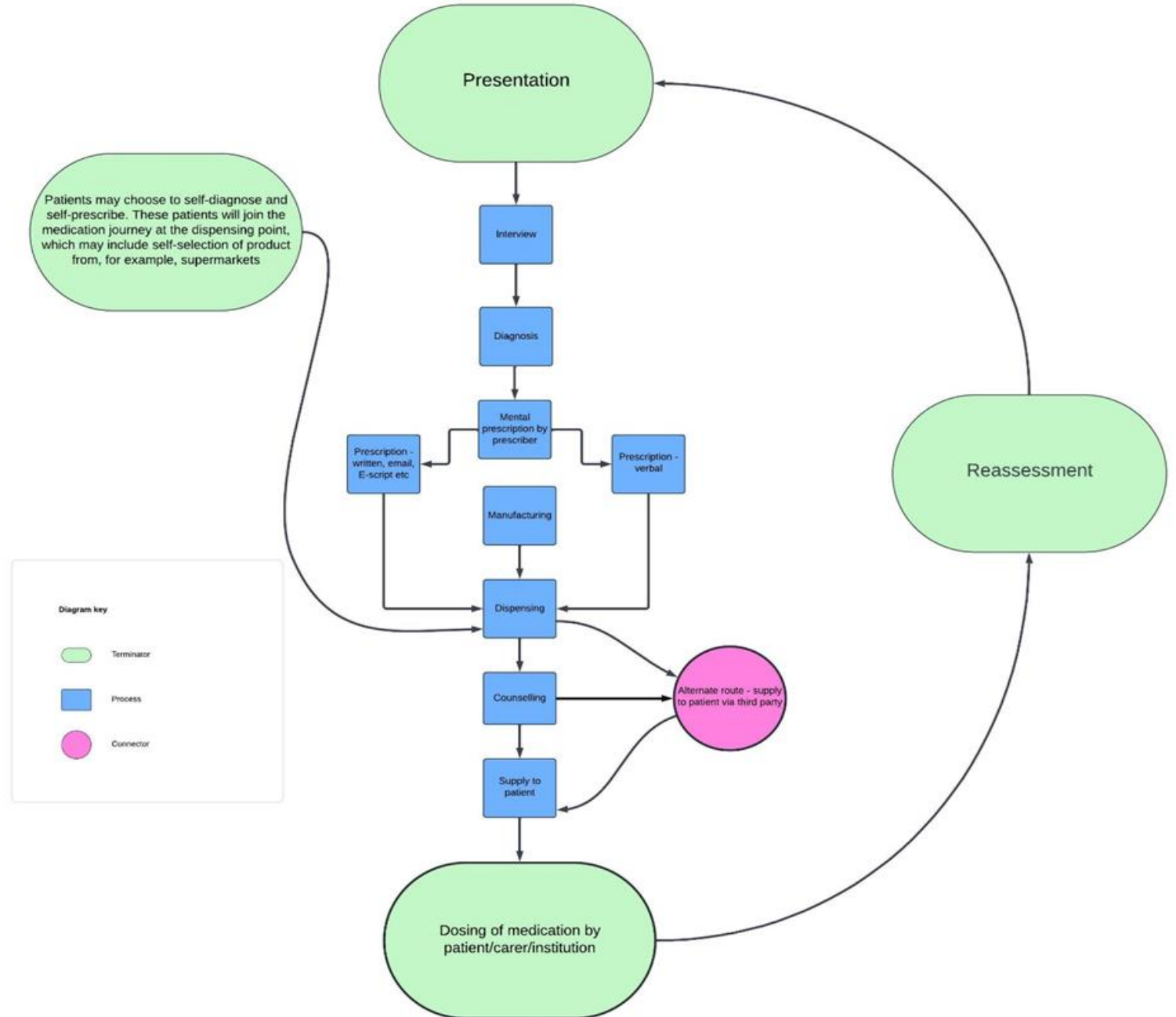
What exactly is medication misadventure?

A medication is a 'product that contains a compound with proven biological effects'. Misadventure has the ordinary English meaning and is an unfortunate incident, or mishap. Therefore, a medication misadventure is an unfortunate incident or mishap involving a compound with proven biological effects.



- The WHO's 'Global patient safety action plan 2021-2030: Towards eliminating avoidable harm in healthcare' outlines a framework with seven strategic objectives (SO1-7), all contributing to patient safety.
- SO4: Engage and empower patients and families to help and support the journey to safer health care.
- SO5: Inspire, educate, skill and protect every health worker to contribute to the design and delivery of safe care systems.
- SO6: Ensure a constant flow of information and knowledge to drive mitigation of risk, a reduction in levels of avoidable harm and improvements in the safety of care.

The medication journey





Thank you

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