Medications for Epilepsy: Choices, Chances, and Changes

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Discuss the role of the pharmacist in helping patients manage their medication regimens.
Pharmacists can help patients with epilepsy manage their medications!
Community
• Address brand/generic/manufacturer switch concerns
• Insurance coverage/affordability

Both
• Adherence
• Dosing
• Drug interaction screening
• Education
• Profile review
• Side effect monitoring

Hospital
• Drug level monitoring
• IV to oral dose conversions
• Renal or hepatic dosing
Patient Adherence Concerns

**Memory issues**
- Medication reminders
- Switch to longer acting formulations

**Medication tolerability**
- Some medications are better tolerated than others
- Suggestions on how to minimize side effects

**Medication cost**
- Prescription assistance programs
- Consider lower cost alternatives
Patient Adherence Concerns

Transportation issues
- Sync refills to occur at the same time each month
- Some pharmacies deliver medications

Patient perceptions
- Pharmacists can discuss concerns about efficacy
- Pharmacists can discuss concerns about side effects

Inconvenient regimens
- Pharmacists can recommend formulations that are easier to swallow
- Pharmacists can help create medication schedules
Pharmacists are...

- Accessible
- Knowledgeable about medications
- Trustworthy

Please feel free to ask us questions! We are happy to help!