

# Poisoning prevention checklist

for people living with dementia

**This checklist is designed as a simple assessment and does not replace professional advice.** (Please place a tick in the relevant box)



## Storage and labelling

Are all medicines and cleaning products stored in their original labelled containers?

Yes  No

Are cleaning, laundry and garden care products stored separately from food and drinks?

Yes  No

Are cupboards or storage areas clearly labelled or marked to distinguish food from non-food items?

Yes  No

Have you removed or replaced unnecessary highly toxic products with safer alternatives?

Yes  No

Are toxic items kept out of sight or reach, preferably in a locked cupboard, for someone who has memory or vision issues?

Yes  No

## Medication management

Is there a routine in place to ensure that the person is taking the right dose at the right time? (consider lockable pill organisers, alarms, carers checking packaging to ensure medication has been taken correctly)

Yes  No

Are medicines in suitable packaging? For those with dexterity issues, easy to manage packaging can be requested from the pharmacy.

Yes  No

Are expired or unused medicines disposed of safely by returning them to the pharmacy?

Yes  No

Is a healthcare professional checking the person's medications regularly to see if they're still needed?

Yes  No

## Risk awareness and environment monitoring

Do carers regularly check if the person's ability to use products safely has changed?

Yes  No

Are signs of accidental misuse or confusion being monitored? (e.g. cleaning products near food, medicines left in unusual places)

Yes  No

Is the home regularly checked for toxic items?

Yes  No

## Next steps

- If the answer to a question is "no," there are still helpful changes that can be made to reduce the risk of accidental poisoning
- You can take some practical steps to help keep things safer, like storing non-edible and hazardous items separately from food and drink, choosing safer product alternatives, or arranging medication support
- Review this checklist regularly, and whenever health or circumstances change.

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