

## Medication Synchronization

(MedSync) At Northern Shores Pharmacy

Do you come into the pharmacy many times per month to pick up different medications? Do your medications not match up?

How would you like to receive ALL your prescription refills at the same time of the month?

The current pharmacy workflow operates around patients bringing in new prescriptions, calling for medication refills, and picking up their medications at their convenience. The pharmacy staff can become overwhelmed as they spend their time answering phone calls, contacting physicians and insurance companies, and filling prescription orders. Patients who are on multiple medications often visit the pharmacy many times a month, which creates inefficiency for you the patient and the pharmacy. Beyond creating inefficiency, the current pharmacy model does not let pharmacists perform regular comprehensive medication reviews, provide medication therapy management (MTM) services like helping you quit smoking, or consult with you about the impact medications have on your life.

This limits your pharmacists' ability to improve your medication adherence, limit side effects and make sure your medications are working well for you.

Medication synchronization is the answer to these problems.

Medication synchronization consists of aligning your chronic medications on a weekly, monthly or every three month schedule. We can keep your



medications in vials – or even put them in bubble packs which further organize your day.

Bubble packs let us organize your medications and vitamins into convenient weekly cards. In the end saves you time and money. The pharmacy can then help keep track of when you need refills and save you from calling in to your doctor every month to get repeats.

At Northern Shores we do things a bit differently to make sure your medications work the best for you. After one appointment with your pharmacist at Northern Shores we can get MedSync set up for you! Drop by any time to see Richard and get started today!



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## A Day In The Life

Of A Veterinary Practice

Most pet owners never get a true glimpse of what goes on in a small animal practice beyond the exam room. Most small animal clinics are a fully equipped hospital able to fully meet the needs of most patients and our clinic is no exception

The day starts at 7:30 am. Our 3 registered veterinary technicians (RVT) arrive and get started looking after the animals that have been hospitalized overnight. Kennels cleaned, dogs taken for a leash walk and everyone fed and medicated if needed.

It no surprise this is a busy time but everyone also gets a little TLC to start the day. Our receptionists arrive at 8:00 and we are officially open. In our hospital, we usually have two doctors on surgery in the morning and their mornings are often full - spay and neuters and well as non-routine surgeries that may include fracture repairs, abdominal surgeries, dental procedures etc. We have a fully equipped surgery just like a human hospital- in fact much of our equipment is exactly the same!

All of our patients requiring anesthesia have pre-anesthetic blood work done to ensure they are healthy to anesthetize. We are privileged to have a extensive in house lab that allows us to run 90% of our lab procedures within 20 minutes! What a tremendous benefit when trying to assess and treat sick animals too!

Lets not forget our other in-house diagnostic tools such as regular digital xray, dental xray and ultra sound- all so helpful when trying to assess patients who can't tell us where it hurts! And with the wonders of modern technology we can have a veterinary radiologist examine our xrays and interpret them at any time! Such

an advantage to have an expert at our finger tips whenever we need them.

Lunch time is quick and then everyone is out for a walk again before appointments start. In our practice we see patients with all possible problems which means we get to be dermatologists (skin), ophthalmologists (eyes), veterinary dentists, pathologists, radiologists etc. Every day is different, every day is challenging but every day is fun! With so much to know we are always in our library, taking courses to upgrade and spending time in hospital rounds with all doctors and RVTs discussing cases.

When the doors close at 5:00 pm we aren't finished yet! Again, all the patients are fed, cleaned, walked and medicated. Our doctors now are on call for emergencies until the next morning. Emergencies can happen any time and someone is always available. We are privileged to work on a rotation with other fantastic veterinarians in our community which helps to lighten the load. Emergency work can be busy. Common emerges we might see include trauma cases such as dogs or cats hit by cars, caesarian sections, emergency abdominal surgeries, very sick animals etc.

A veterinary hospital is never a dull place to work! Always something new and challenging to do - always an opportunity to help an owner and their pet!



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