

## Stage at which an error can occur

Patient enters  
“paperless”  
world

**eP interface: Patient admitted from primary care; from another hospital; from theatre/ICU**  
Patient’s current medicines entered into the eP system

### **Prescribing the medicine (doctors)**

Prescriber assesses *clinical need* for medication  
*Selects patient record* from eP menu  
*Decides which drug(s)* to prescribe  
*Picks drug name, strength and formulation* (eg: tablet, liquid, injection....) from menu  
*Enters dose* to be given (as strength, eg: 500mg or as number of units, eg: “2 tablets”)  
*Enters frequency* (eg: give now; give if needed; give regularly three times a day)  
May also give instructions for length of treatment; quantity to supply

### **Supplying the medicine (pharmacy staff)**

*Dispensing* of ward stock items and individual patient medication

### **Administering the medicine (nurses)**

Nurse *selects patient record*  
*Administers and records* regular drugs due at that time  
Administers and records “when required” medicines  
Administers and records “once only” drugs

### **Monitoring the effects (doctors, nurses, pharmacists)**

*Make and record* clinical observations  
*Order and assess* laboratory tests  
Observe and record drug-related problems  
Order and assess drug plasma levels

### **eP interface: Patient is discharged home; to another hospital; or moves to theatre or ICU**

Prescriber assesses clinical need for medication  
Prescribes medicines (as above) “to take home”  
Current medication reported for paper-based prescribing

Patient leaves  
“paperless”  
world

