

Class & Group	Seat	Name	Student number	Date	Handout Number

### Pharmacy Errors - Photo Report

**Exercise I.** Arrange the order of the photos on the slide based on the *Deadly Pharmacy Errors* news. You can watch the news as many times as you want. Write the order below (for example A, B, C, D, E etc.).

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**Exercise II.** After you finished Exercise I., continue and choose the best description for each photo from below based on the *Deadly Pharmacy Errors* news and write the order with description number below (for example: A-1, B-3, C-5, D-7, E-9 etc.).

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1. The dosage error was made by Janelle Banks, *who was a high school student at the time and working as a pharmacy technician* at Walgreens. When questioned under oath in the lawsuit brought by the Hippleys against Walgreens, Janelle admitted her error. As for *the Walgreens pharmacist, who was supposed to double-check all prescriptions according to the store's quality control system, she was unaware of the error until called to testify.* She has since been promoted.

2. Retired Walgreens pharmacist Bill Kennedy *has testified in several court cases like Alexandra's against his former employer.* Even though he worked there for decades and became the president of the pharmacists' union, Kennedy says *he was threatened with his job for taking too much time filling prescriptions.*

3. Beth Hippely's doctor prescribed the powerful blood thinner Coumadin after she began chemotherapy for a treatable stage II breast cancer. But Walgreens gave Beth *pills that were 10 times the prescribed dose.*

4. Alexandra, seen here at seven months old, was given the wrong medication for seven weeks. Instead of preventing seizures in Alexandra, *the medicine given to her mother by a Walgreens pharmacist caused seizures,* resulting in severe brain damage that doctors say will affect Alexandra for the rest of her life.

5. The fact is *no one really knows how many serious errors are made at this country's biggest pharmacies* -- including CVS Pharmacy, Walgreens, Eckerd and Rite Aid -- because neither the federal government nor 46 of the 50 states require drug stores to report their errors. Mary Ann Wagner, the senior vice president of the National Association of Chain Drug Stores, a Washington, D.C. trade group, spoke to "ABC News" on behalf of the drug store chains. While Wagner maintained "there's a tremendous amount of concern" about pharmacy errors in the industry, she admitted, "We don't keep track of them." As for the big chains, she says they are spending huge sums in new training and high-tech programs designed to prevent errors in the billions of prescriptions filled each year.

6. Alexandra's case is one of what some fear is an unreported epidemic of pharmacy errors at the country's growing chain drug stores. In a four-month "ABC News" investigation, Brian Ross and the Investigative Team went undercover and found out that *many prescriptions are not even filled by pharmacists but by pharmacy technicians who are often just high school students. Pharmacists are supposed to then check each prescription.*

7. Beth Hippely *was left brain-damaged, disabled and unable to care for herself and her family after she suffered a stroke as a result of a mistake. A Walgreens pharmacy technician, who was just a high school student at the time, gave her the wrong dosage for a prescribed blood thinner.* Beth survived despite the massive stroke that left her crippled and forced her to stop needed chemotherapy. *She died two months ago after her cancer returned.*

8. Alexandra Gehrke is now eight years old. *Although she is expected to have a normal life expectancy, Alexandra cannot walk, talk or feed herself.*

9. Alexandra Gehrke's mother Tracey Gehrke was supposed to be picking up *a dose of Phenobarbital to prevent seizures in her four-month-old daughter who had been born premature.* But a Walgreens pharmacist mistakenly filled the bottle with a powerful diabetes medicine for adults that is the same color and size as Phenobarbital but has a distinct number and brand that the busy pharmacist apparently missed.