



Clinical Assistance Guide

TabTimer Careousel Automatic Pill Dispenser

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TabTimer Careousel Automatic Pill Dispensers

For individuals requiring medication to manage pain and health conditions, taking the right dose at the right time is essential. The risks of missing a dose, or double dosing, could have dire consequences leading to a medical event, falls, ambulance callouts or hospital admissions. For some individuals who live alone, inability to manage medication may require formal or informal supports for supervision or administration of medicines or may be the catalyst for a move to assisted living.

TabTimer Automatic Pill Dispensers provide a solution to assist those with, for example:

- a complicated medication regime,
- cognitive or memory support needs,
- reduced dexterity or vision for managing blister packets,
- medicine dependency issues, or
- parents, spouses or carers caring for children or older family members, busy routines and/or their own health needs

The TabTimer Careousel® Automatic Pill Dispensers therefore, can be a significant aid in improving the user's quality of life, helping them to live independently at home for longer. Aidacare provides four **TabTimer** automatic pill dispenser options. See comparison chart below.

HOW DO AUTOMATIC PILL DISPENSERS WORK?

The TabTimer automatic pill dispensers have up to 28 compartments, with the Advance model also having a lockable cover and dispensing shutter, so the user doesn't have access to their medication, reducing the potential of double dosing or taking the wrong medicines. Up to 28 different alarms (depending on the model) can be set per day, and two or more compartments can be programmed to alarm at the same time, to accommodate even complex medication regimes to ensure access to the right dose at the right time.

At the programmed time a light will flash, and alarm will sound to alert the user of the medication time. When the alarm sounds the tray will rotate within the dispenser and the shutter is unlocked (Advance model), releasing the medication into the user's hand, or container, when the dispenser is tipped. Tipping the dispenser also turns off the alarm, otherwise the alarm will continue to sound up to a programmed time if the dose is missed (1 or 5 hours depending on the model). If the user hasn't taken their medication within the programmed timeframe the shutter will lock (Advance model) and the medication tray will rotate half a turn, restricting access to the medication until the next programmed alarm. This prevents the risk of double dosing or taking medicines too close together. Pills remain in the tray compartment allowing carers to see any missed doses. Carers can also see a record of each time the dispenser was tipped indicating when medicines were taken, which may allow adjustments to medication regimes if required.

For a higher degree of security in reducing early access to medications, the **E-Pill | MedTime SAFE |** is an automatic pill dispenser housed in a robust, tamper resistant, locked metal case. It has four independent locks and can dispense up to 28 times per day, keeping medication safe and helping to prevent overdosing. This portable, locked medication dispenser is designed for home or institutional use for timed dispensing of pain, psych, or CIII medications.

Accessories and spare trays are available for offsite filling by carers or pharmacists, and the TabTimer Automatic Pill Dispensers meet the requirements of the Quality Care Pharmacy Program (QCPP) for a dose administration aid, when used with the supplied medicine card and tamper evident stickers. A Dispenser Tipper is available for those with limited strength or wrist dexterity and those who might forget to turn the dispenser upright after dispensing their pills.

TabTimer® Automatic Pill Dispensers are not a medical device; they are assistive technology designed to support the user (or carer) in remembering to take their medication. Assessment is advised to inform whether they are suitable for an individual user.



E-Pill MedTime

MK3 Careousel

TabTimer Advanced

FEATURES

128 Daily Alarm Times	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accommodates simple to complex medication regimes
28/29 Compartments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To support simple to complex medication schedules
Dual / Multi Dose programming	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> When there are many or large pills, the dose can be split over two compartments and two alarms set at the same time. This allows the TabTimer to dispense the pills in the two compartments, one after the other
Early Dose	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allows the user to access the medication early if required (e.g. user is out for the day)
Start Delay Function	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Delays activation to allow pharmacists or family members to easily fill in advance, away from the user's home
Pharmacy Label Carrier and Label Case	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supplied to comply with pharmacy labelling requirements Tamper evident stickers can be fixed to the device and show a void message if removed. This enables pharmacies to comply with QCPP (Quality Care Pharmacy Program)
Stop Function	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allows stopping the dispenser operation at a future date and time. Useful when two or more dispensers are being used in sequence to ensure that only one dispenser is active at a time
Upside Down Feature	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The medication tray rotation is disabled if the dispenser is left upside down, to avoid pill spillage. The alarm will still sound at a dosage time, and the tray will rotate if turned upright. When upright, at the next alarm time, the tray will rotate to the correct tray compartment for that programmed time
Upside Down Warning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If the dispenser is left upside down, a warning tone will sound until it is turned upright
Day / Time Discs Supplied	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 / 2 / 3 / 4 times daily dosage, and one blank disc for five or more doses per day
Simple 3 Button Programming	
Battery Level Meter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> And warning indicator

Four Different Alarm Sounds

Flashing Light

- For those with hearing impairment

Lock

- The TabTimer dispenser is equipped with a lock to ensure only the medication that is due is accessible to the user

Security

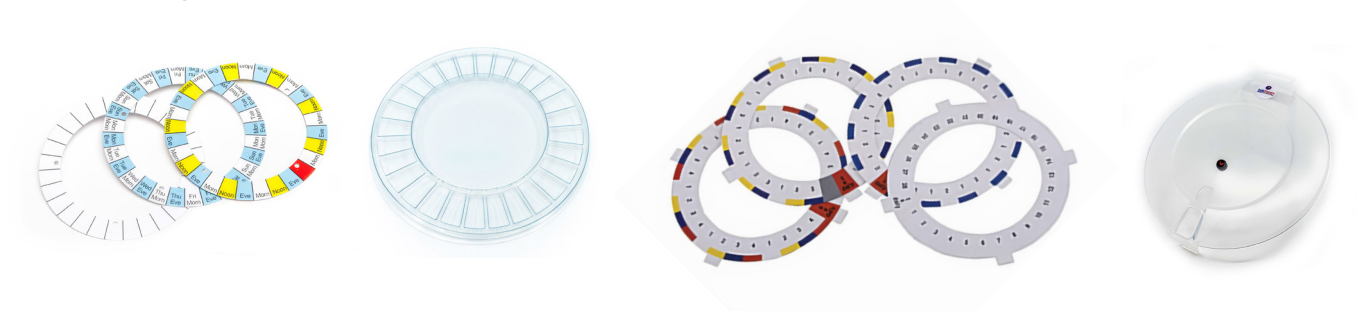
- A selflocking shutter over the lid opening prevents access to the medication tray except at the alarm time (Advance model). This reduces the risk of double dosing and prevents the forced movement of the tray by the user
- A metal case (E-Pill MedTime SAFE model) with 4 independent locks, blocks access to the automatic pill dispenser and its medication tray. This creates a highly tamper resistant environment - greatly reducing a user's ability to gain access to their medication. Users will only have access to the current dose; all other doses remain locked inside

Display

- LCD shows date, time, next dose, doses remaining, and battery level
-

ACCESSORIES

There are a large number of accessories and replacement parts available



IDEAL USER CONDITIONS

People with the following support needs may benefit from use of an Automatic Pill dispenser:

- Complicated medication schedules with multiple medicines and/or strict dosage times throughout a day, requiring stringent adherence e.g. Parkinson's disease
- Time critical medication schedule
- Cognitive or memory support needs, e.g. Dementia, Acquired Brain Injury, Learning Difficulties
 - a. Difficulty remembering the date and time
 - b. Difficulty knowing which compartment to open in a blister pack or dosette box
 - c. Difficulty remembering if medication has already been taken or not
 - d. Impaired time management e.g. Executive Function impairment, ADHD,
- Reduced dexterity managing pill bottles or Blister Packs
- Vision impairment causing difficulty with managing a dosette box or Blister Pack
- Medication dependency issues, or high-risk medication regimes requiring scheduled access to medication
- Parents, spouses or carers supporting children or older family members, in addition to managing their own competing routines and health needs
 - a. Requiring a solution to secure medicines from young children and pets when distractions are present
 - b. Requiring a solution to prompt carer to assist with managing the care recipient's medication schedule

- Nonresident carers who set up and monitor medication management. Trays can be refilled and replaced depending on the complexity of the medication schedule and level of supervision required.

REFILL SCHEDULE:

- 1 medication time per day - refill tray every 28 days (4 weeks)
- 2 medication times per day - refill tray every 14 days (2 weeks)
- 3 medication times per day - refill tray every 9 days
- 4 medication times per day - refill tray every 7 days (refill once per week)
- 5 medication times per day - refill tray every 5 days
- 6 medication times per day - refill tray every 4 days
- up to 28 medication times per day - refill tray once a day

CLIENT OUTCOMES

Enhanced independence, dignity and quality of life

- **Promotes Self Management** - Automatic dispensers empower individuals to manage their own medication without constant supervision, fostering a sense of independence and autonomy
- **Supporting Independence** - To administer their own medicines, may improve the sense of dignity and feeling of control by the user and enable them to remain independent at home for longer, without the reliance on formal or informal carer support. This may reduce the feeling of loss of privacy associated with frequent care visits
- **Simplified Regimens** - For those with complex medication schedules involving multiple pills and varying times, the pill dispenser automates the process, taking the stress out of remembering what to take and when
- **Monitoring Medication Adherence** - monitoring the dispensing times may inform GPs and specialists about medication regime adherence or need for additional support at specific times

Improved health and safety and reduced risks related to medication errors

- **Accurate Dosing** - Devices ensure the correct medication and dose are dispensed at the right time, significantly reducing the risk of accidental overdoses or missed doses.
- **Error Reduction** - Reduced risk of medication errors through self-administering from pill bottles, dosette boxes or blister packs by users with visual and/or cognitive impairment. Medication trays can be filled by pharmacists or carers and locked in the TabTimer Careousels to reduce incorrect dosing
- **Improved Medication Adherence** - Audio and visual reminders prompt users to take their prescribed medicines at the prescribed time, significantly reducing the risk of admissions to hospitals and nursing homes due to medication errors, or the need for close supervision for medication management
- **Secure Storage** - Medications are stored in locked, and/or tamper-resistant careousels, and only accessible at the scheduled time, reducing unauthorised access by children, pets, or individuals with cognitive impairment or medicine dependency

Cost savings and sustainability of supports

- The dispenser enables self-medication, reducing the need for carers, (formal or informal), to be present on every occasion that medication is due
- Improved medication adherence reduces the risk of adverse effects that may result in ambulance callouts or hospital admissions and the associated costs to the individual and health system
- Limited access to medication supervision by formal or informal carers may result in the need for assisted living. The Careousel® dispenser may assist aging in place by supporting management of the user's medication regime

Carer support

- Family carers may not live nearby or have multiple commitments that don't allow for daily or multiple daily medication supervision. The Careousel® helps to relieve the strain on supporting family members by presenting the right dose at the right time
- Spouses may not have the capacity to manage complex medication regimes requiring multiple medication prompts throughout the day and night. The Careousels can provide peace of mind to extended family members, that medication prompts are provided automatically
- **Reduced Caregiver Load** - Caregivers and family members can worry less about whether a loved one is taking their medication correctly. Dose records and locked compartments enable the carer to track whether medication has been dispensed, or not taken at the prescribed time, providing evidence for the need for tailored support
- Carers of children managing busy schedules and multiple complex medication regimes (e.g. multiple children requiring supervision or assistance with medicines) can benefit from the reduced mental load and risk of errors from incorrect dosing and securing medication from other children or pets

Features and accessories assist those requiring support for cognition, vision or hand dexterity

- **Reminders and Alerts** - A combination of auditory alarms and flashing lights remind users when it is time for a dose, helping with medication adherence
- **Solid Lid Option** - Can reduce confusion of knowing what pills to take when
- **Dosing Rings** - Different dosing rings can be used to support orientation to the day and time of day coinciding with the medicine dose reminder. Multiple options allow for a change in medication regimes
- **A Dispenser Tipper** - Assists users
 - a. With limited strength or dexterity to hold and tip the Careousel to dispense pills easily or safely
 - b. With reduced vision to ensure that all pills are captured in the container
 - c. Who leave the Careousel upside down which may impact the release of the next dose

WARRANTY

12 months

AIDACARE KNOWLEDGE HUB

Aidacare website links

[TabTimer MK3 Careousel Automatic Pill Dispenser | Aidacare](#)





[TabTimer ADVANCE Careousel Automatic Pill Dispenser | Aidacare](#)

[MedTime SAFE Tamper Resistant Automatic Pill Dispenser | Aidacare](#)

Video links

[TabTimer - Automatic Pill Dispensers](#)

AUTOMATIC PILL DISPENSER COMPARISON CHART

	TabTimer Careousel MK3	TabTimer Careousel Advance	MedTime Automatic Pill Dispenser	e-pill - MEDTIME SAFE Tamper Resistant Pill Dispenser
	TT28-29MK3	TT24-28ADV	TT28-28	TT28-28-epill-S
				
FEATURE / MODEL	Pharmacell/Pivotell	Pharmacell/Pivotell	Pharmacell/Pivotell	Pharmacell/Pivotell
Daily Alarms / Doses p/day	up to 24	Up to 24	Up to 28	Up to 28
Number of Compartments	29	28	28	28
Useable compartments	28	28	27	27
Compartment cover / flap	X	✓ locking flap	X	X
Alarm duration	up to 5 hr	up to 5 hrs	up to 1 hr	up to 1 hr
Volume approx.	60-80dB	60-80dB	60-80dB	60-80dB
Number of Tones	4	4	4	4
Flashing light	✓	✓	✓	✓
Acknowledge /Stop alarm	Tip	Tip	Tip	Tip
Dual/Multi dose dispensing	✓ rotates after tip	✓ 2mins gap	✓ rotates after tip	✓ rotates after tip
Early Dose feature	✓	✓	✓	✓
'Doses Left' Counter	X	✓	X	X
Start delay function	✓	✓	✓	✓
Stop function	✓	✓	X	X
Lockable	✓	✓	✓	✓
Medicine labelling	✓	✓	✓	✓
Interchangeable lids avail.	✓	✓	✓	X
	frosted/solid avail.	frosted/solid avail.	frosted/solid avail.	
LCD Display Visible	with frosted lid only	✓	with frosted lid only	X
12/24hr display	✓	✓	✓	✓
Auto daylight saving	✓ AU on/off	✓ AU & NZ option	✓* USA on/off	✓* USA on/off
Test function	✓	✓	✓	✓
Secure battery compartment	✓	✓	X	✓
Batteries	4 x AA standard	4 x AA standard	4 x AA standard	4 x AA standard
Battery type	Alkaline or re-chargeable NiMH	Alkaline or re-chargeable NiMH	Alkaline	Alkaline
Battery life est.	6-12mths	6-12mths	6-12mths	6-12mths
Low battery indicator	✓	✓	✓	✓
Dosing rings	4 + 2 blanks	4 + 2 blanks	4 + 2 blanks	4 + 2 blanks
Upside down warning	✓	✓	✓	✓
Upside down rotate disabled	✓	✓	✓	✓
View actual dispense times	✓	✓	✓	✓
Label carrier	✓	✓	✓	✓
Filling aids avail.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Tipper avail.	✓	✓	✓	X
NDIS	✓	✓	✓	✓
DVA	✓	✓	X	X
CHSP - geat2GO	✓	✓	X	X
Dimensions approx.	180 dia. x 56mm	180 dia. x 56mm	180 dia. x 56mm	180 dia. x 56mm
Compartment size approx.	30 x 30 x 14mm	32 x 30 x 15mm	30 x 30 x 14mm	30 x 30 x 14mm
Capacity approx..	3-4 large vitamin 8-9 Panadol 8ml	4-5 large vitamin 8-9 Panadol 11ml	3-4 large vitamin 8-9 Panadol 8ml	3-4 large vitamin 8-9 Panadol 8ml
Weight with batteries approx.	455g	490g	455g	455g
Warranty 12mth ex.batt & lock	✓	✓	✓	✓
Certifications	CE, ROHS	CE, ROHS	CE, ROHS	CE, ROHS
Material	Antibacterial silver ion technology	Antibacterial silver ion technology	Antibacterial silver ion technology	Antibacterial silver ion technology
Country of manufacture	Sweden	Sweden	Sweden	Sweden
Aidacare Code	DLG275000	DLG275010	DLG275030	DLG275020