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polypharmacy

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poly·phar·ma·cy | \ ,pā-li- 'fär-mə-sē  \

Definition of *polypharmacy*

: the practice of administering many different medicines especially concurrently for the treatment of a single disease
also : the concurrent use of multiple medications by a patient to treat usually coexisting conditions and which may result in adverse drug interactions

Examples of *polypharmacy* in a Sentence

Recent Examples on the Web But *polypharmacy* can put people at risk of side effects that can severely impact their quality of life and even cause life-threatening symptoms. — [Erin Allday, *SFChronicle.com*, "UCSF leads national research on 'deprescribing' patients taking too many meds," 25 Dec. 2019](#) The work is part of a provocative and growing body of research that documents how *polypharmacy* -- the use of multiple prescription drugs at the same time - has risen in the U.S. — [Carolyn Y. Johnson, *chicagotribune.com*, "More than a third of American adults take prescription drugs that may increase risk of depression, study says," 12 June 2018](#) Studies have linked *polypharmacy* to unnecessary death. — [Sandra G. Boodman | Kaiser Health News, *Washington Post*, "An Overlooked Epidemic: Older Americans Taking Too Many Unneeded Drugs," 12 Dec. 2017](#) Studies have linked *polypharmacy* to unnecessary death. — [Sandra G. Boodman, *chicagotribune.com*, "America's other big drug problem: Older people take too many pills," 12 Dec. 2017](#) Studies have linked *polypharmacy* to unnecessary death. — [Sandra G. Boodman | Kaiser Health News, *Washington Post*, "An Overlooked Epidemic: Older Americans Taking Too Many Unneeded Drugs," 12 Dec. 2017](#) Studies have linked *polypharmacy* to unnecessary death. — [Sandra G. Boodman, *chicagotribune.com*, "America's other big drug problem: Older people take too many pills," 12 Dec. 2017](#) Studies have linked *polypharmacy* to unnecessary death. — [Sandra G. Boodman | Kaiser Health News, *Washington Post*, "An Overlooked Epidemic: Older Americans Taking Too Many Unneeded Drugs," 12 Dec. 2017](#) Studies have linked *polypharmacy* to unnecessary death. — [Sandra G. Boodman, *chicagotribune.com*, "America's other big drug problem: Older people take too many pills," 12 Dec. 2017](#)

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1762, in the meaning defined [above](#)

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The first known use of *polypharmacy* was in 1762

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plural polypharmacies

Medical Definition of *polypharmacy*

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