

health hints



How A Wallet-Sized Card Can Save Your Life

(NAPSA)—Quick access to your medical information could save your life in an emergency situation.

Having your complete medical history at your fingertips may help prevent errors in diagnosis and treatment, and enable doctors to provide the highest level of emergency care.

Cards such as the Med+Link Medical Smart Card detail medical history, immunizations, drug allergies, and insurance coverage, plus personal statistics such as blood type, age and weight.

The Med+Link Smart Card is a credit card-sized card that enables personal medical information to be quickly accessed in an emergency. In addition, card owners can consolidate, store and manage their medical records in one central location via the Med+Link network.

More detailed information about the card is available from Med+Link International at www.yourmedlink.com or by calling 800-211-0883. The card costs \$49.95, and includes a one-year membership to the Med+Link Network and a smart card reader.

The card is imprinted with the member's name, vital information and the toll-free number for the Med+Link call center. In the event of an emergency, the physician can contact the company's call center for instant access to the injured person's medical records. Also, the call center will contact any family or friends who have been named as emergency contacts.

Embedded in the card is a smart chip that can hold up to 8KB of information. A member can transfer their medical records onto the smart chip and the information is then retrieved and updated via a standard smart card reader.



A card with important medical information may speed your treatment in an emergency room.

The information is secured using an advanced encryption technology, allowing access only to authorized individuals and medical professionals.

The chances of surviving a medical emergency improve exponentially if a person can be accurately assessed, stabilized and treated in one hour or less. Having such a card can help speed the process.

Hospital information systems are generally not well equipped to share data with their own internal departments let alone with other hospital systems, so the card can be a valuable source of information.

The card can be used by everyone including seniors, frequent leisure and business travelers, young children traveling without their parents, college students, chronically ill people who may not be able to speak for themselves in an emergency and anyone who has multiple physicians and/or a complicated medical history.