

Parish Nurse Pharmacy Brown Bag Event at Tuality Healthcare 4-12-08

The Joint Commission's #3 National Patient Safety Goal: Medication Safety

The Parish Nurse Pharmacy Brown Bag Event is a health education and promotion program to help seniors and others understand how to safely use their medications. Because Parish Nurses have ongoing, faith-based relationships with their parishioners, they have strong connections that result in great trust from their faith community. This opens up many teaching and learning opportunities.

In March of 2007 a pilot project was conducted with Northwest Parish Nurse Ministries (NPNM), and AARP Oregon, which involved parish nurses affiliated with NPNM and Tuality Healthcare. This team recruited and partnered with registered pharmacists from local hospitals and drugstores, as well as utilizing pharmacy interns from Oregon State University College of Pharmacy. Parish Nurses recruited participants from their congregations' who were known to be taking six or more medications. The Brown Bag offered a health fair atmosphere with private tables for participants to have parish nurse and pharmacist interviews.

The nurses reviewed general health status and checked for medication list accuracy (participants actually brought all of their medications from home in a brown paper bag). Once the nurse interview was complete, the participant was then directed to a pharmacist to thoroughly review all of their medications. Once the participant finished with the pharmacist, an exit interview was conducted with the parish nurse to reinforce recommendations and teaching. Resource tables from AARP and SHIBA (Senior Health Insurance Benefit Assistance) were also available for participants. They were given information folders with teaching materials that promote safe medication use, resources for affordable medications, and health education classes/literature.

Forty percent of the participants from this program were referred by pharmacists to their physicians for identified adverse issues related to medication safety. As a result of these findings, NPNM and the initial pilot team expanded the program. They were able to offer a workshop training to 30 plus local parish nurses to allow pharmacy brown bags to be repeated in the surrounding community.

Tuality's parish nurse coordinator, Sandy Madsen, a mentor for the program, facilitated our second Pharmacy Brown Bag event on April 12 here at THEC. Using the same format from the March 2007 pilot, eighteen participants received one to one instruction with both a parish nurse and pharmacist. In addition each participant agreed to be a part of a research study conducted by NPNM and the University of Portland. The parish nurses will be following up with these individuals a minimum of three times over the next six months. The study will look at the impact of parish nurse follow-up with regard to positive healthy changes for medication safety by the participants.

Quote from Sandy Madsen:

"I am really proud to have been a part of the original pilot for this program. To be able to teach other parish nurses how to hold these events and then duplicate them is

great. I am really anxious to see what the results of the study will be. Every day I see the great things that these nurses do. To have documentation to that effect is just icing on the cake. Both events yielded high accolades from participants, nurses and pharmacists.

Every person that assisted with this event was a volunteer. Over one hundred collective volunteer hours were logged to make this happen. It was great to have several health ministry teams come together and share the work. Trying to hold an event of this magnitude individually would be very daunting. Having the collective efforts of the team made it come to fruition. What an incredible gathering of learning, sharing and community spirit!

Having the event at Tuality was a valuable experience. Judith Hayes (Tuality Library) provided us with excellent, current pharmacy reference materials for both prescription and Over-the-counter/herbal medicines. We also had computer access to the intranet with the Micromedix system. The pharmacists loved that.”

11 Parish Nurses/RNs

Sister Mary Ellen Hanson, RN, PN

Sharon Godsey, RN, PN

Pauline Ackerman, RN, PN (Names listed in Red are Tuality Employees)

Diana Gaughan, RN

Bernie Smith, RN

Debra Gray, RN

Kathy VanBeeck, RN

Phyllis Gunther, RN

Marianne Hemstreet, RN

Sandy Madsen, RN, PNC

Blanche Kobs, RN, PN

9 Health Ministers/Community Volunteers (not licensed as RN or pharmacist)

Lori Lyda

Anne Caravone

Marjorie Turner

Mary Helen Adams

Monica Delaney

Gerry Delaney

Judith Aguas

Elizabeth Wimsatt

Patty Campbell

4 licensed Pharmacists, 3 Pharmacy Interns/Students

Roger Peltola, RPh, The Medicine Shoppe Pharmacy, Tuality

Genevieve Wahl, RPh, Safeway Pharmacy, Beaverton

Lynne Frazier, Pharm D, Wellpartner Pharmacy

Bridget Hedquist, OSU Pharmacy Student

Chau Do, RPh, Rite Aid Pharmacy, Aloha

Lindsay Holmson, OSU Pharmacy Student

Megann Sell, Creighton University Pharmacy Intern

1 AARP volunteer

Nitu Lyer

1 SHIBA (Senior Health Insurance Benefit Assistance) volunteer.

Darleen Macken

New Season's Market, Orenco Station

\$50 Health Food & Snack donation

Representation from four faith communities:

Hillsboro First Baptist

Holy Trinity Catholic, Beaverton

Beaverton Four Square

St. Elizabeth Ann Seaton Catholic, Aloha

Not only do the participants learn something, pharmacists and parish nurses always learn something new:

Comments from Pharmacists and Pharmacy Interns that volunteered at the event:

"I believe it was an educational experience for all. Thanks for giving us the opportunity perform this gratifying experience".

"I am impressed with the concern and good organization behind this event".

"I would like to do this kind of event again. Also- I was made more aware that patients don't always receive all the information from their regular pharmacist they should. This will make me more aware of being sure I ask my patients all the appropriate questions."

"This event makes me love being a pharmacist even more!"

"I will question more often about what herbal remedies people are using".

Comments from parish nurses/ RNs that volunteered at the event:

"The post pharmacist visit revealed this was very helpful for the recipient."

"A very successful social event as well as being spiritually and medically invaluable and fun!"

"Other needs were also identified: referrals to AARP & SHIBA and general information educated the nurses too".

"As a new parish nurse this is a learning experience for me and will help me in participating and planning future events for my church."

Comments from Participants:

"Thank you for doing this program. It has been very helpful."

"Wonderful program. Great nurses."

"Very useful. I appreciate this opportunity."

"A perfect program!"

"Excellent – Well planned and executed."