|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | **Huron Perth Healthcare Alliance** | | | | **Pharmacy** | Original Issue Date: | April 03, 1989 | | **Self Medication Program** | Review/Effective Date: | July 09, 2020 | | **Approved By: Director, Diagnostics, Regional Pharmacy and Chemotherapy** | Next Review Date: | July 09, 2022 | |
| https://intranet.hpha.ca/myalliance/imgs/spacer.gif |
| This is a CONTROLLED document for internal use only. Any documents appearing in paper form are not controlled and should be checked against the document (titled as above) on the file server prior to use. |
| **Policy**  The Huron Perth Healthcare Alliance (HPHA) Pharmacy will provide weekly medication blister packs for identified patients on the self-medication program.  **Purpose** Patient “Self Medication” by means of a blister pack will maintain patient’s independence and assist in teaching the patient independent and proper administration of medications to facilitate transition from hospital to home, upon discharge. **Indications** The self-medication blister pack program is intended for patients who require assessment or practice on their abilities to self-administer medications to plan for a successful discharge from hospital. Consideration will be given to patient in continuing care and rehab designations who, once discharged, will be in charge of their own medication administration in their home. Additionally, to be considered for the self-medication program, the patient must be on a stable medication regimen where changes in medications and/or doses are not anticipated. All other patients will be assessed on an ad hoc basis.  A physician’s written order to commence the Self Medication Program must be received by pharmacy. If the physician, in consultation with other members of the health care team, determine the patient is eligible for the self-medication program, an order will be written in the physician order section of the patient’s chart. Patients will only be able to be started on the Self Medication Program when a pharmacist is available to initiate the process. Patients enrolled in the Self Medication Program will have their blister packages provided on a weekly basis.  **Procedure**:  1. Once a physician’s written order for Self Medications is received by the pharmacy, the pharmacist will first assess the patient’s list of medications to determine which medications are appropriate to be included in the Self Medication Program. Only regularly scheduled medications that do not have any special handling considerations will be included in the Self  Medication Program.  The following will be excluded from the Self Medication Program:   * As needed (or PRN) medications * Narcotic and controlled medications * BULK medications (i.e. Inhalers, creams etc.) * Items that cannot be removed from their original packaging (i.e. Oral disintegrating tablets) * Any non-oral medications (i.e. Patches, injectables) * Any cytotoxic and non-cytotoxic hazardous medications * Medications for which doses are not stabilized or require titration (ex. Warfarin)   2. The pharmacist will write an order in the patient’s chart specifying when the program is to start (date/time) and which medications will be included in the patient’s blister package.  3. A Pharmacy team member will complete the order entry for self-medication in Meditech once they receive the pharmacist’s order. A pharmacist will verify their order entry.  4. The **Blister Pack Med List** will be generated by a pharmacy team member, as follows:  Meditech Main Menu  #215 - Self Medication Program  #10 - Blister Pack Med list  Two (2) Copies of this will print.  5. The Blister Pack Med List will contain the following:   * The name of the drug * The strength of the drug * How many tablets/capsules per dose   6. The Pharmacy Team member will pull up the patient’s profile in Meditech and complete the sheet to indicate when each medication is to be taken. They will write the times in the most appropriate spot. If there is a time that is not exactly morning, noon, evening or bedtime, the tablet/capsule will be put in the closest possible time slot.  7. The Pharmacy Team member will affix one copy of the Blister Pack Med List to the designated section for prescription labels on the Seven (7) Day Blister Pack. A second copy will be maintained for quality assurance and record keeping, and kept in the Self Medication binder in the pharmacy department. These will be filed alphabetically by patient’s last name.  8. The Pharmacy Team member will complete the filling of the blister pack from the automated packager packages or bulk bottles. The packages used from the automated package rand bulk bottles must remain with the blister pack for the final checking by a second pharmacy team member. The pharmacy team member filling the blister package will initial the blister pack med list when filling of the blister package has been completed.  9. The second Pharmacy Team member must complete the final check of the blister pack and initial second copy of med list. The med list must be filed in the Self Medication binder.  10. The Pharmacist is responsible for the delivery of the blister pack to the patient, if the patient requires teaching. The Pharmacist will review the proper usage of the blister pack with the patient and answer any questions the patient may have.  Note: for patients at Clinton, St. Marys or Seaforth sites, a pharmacy technician will deliver the blister pack to the unit. A pharmacist will review the proper usage of the blister pack with the patient via a phone call, or by videoconference (i.e., OTN). Note: a nursing team member is also able to complete this step, if needed.  11. If this is the patient’s first week on the self medication program, the pharmacist will print the complete list of the medications that the patient has been prescribed by accessing the following:  Meditech Main Menu  #215 - Self Medication Program  #5 - Patient Med List  12. The Pharmacist will write the indication for each medication on the patient medication list. The list will be given to the patient when they are counselled on the proper usage of the blister pack.  **Note:** for patients at Clinton, St. Marys or Seaforth sites, a pharmacy technician will deliver this medication list to the unit for when the telephone counseling occurs.  Updating Refills  Blister Packs are initiated and refilled on a weekly basis  When new medication orders are received, the pharmacist is responsible for communicating with the pharmacy technicians if the blister pack requires updating prior to the next schedule refill. A pharmacy staff member will retrieve the blister pack from the unit and make the appropriate changes. The updated blister pack will be delivered back to the unit. Appropriate changes will be made on the eMAR. |