

Medication Safety - Not All Drugs Get Along

Patient and resident safety is a priority for staff, physicians and volunteers at Carleton Place & District Memorial Hospital (CPDMH), Almonte General Hospital (AGH) and Fairview Manor. The care teams continually look for opportunities to engage patients, residents, visitors, families and one another to talk about safety.

This week is Canadian Patient Safety Week and events are taking place across all organizations to raise awareness and education. Poster presentations, videos and brochures on patient meal trays support a safer system and a strong culture of safety.

Among the participants are the Pharmacy and Occupational Therapy teams who are providing information on how to safely take and store various medications. The Occupational Health team will be providing flu shots and information about this year's flu.

In addition, several pharmacies in Almonte and Carleton Place have provided medication safety material and examples.

This theme of this year's Patient Safety Week is 'Not All Drugs Get Along'. It encourages patients, residents, visitors, families and healthcare professionals to start conversations about the five life-saving questions to ask about medications.

These questions are: Changes? Continue? Proper Use? Monitor? and Follow-Up?

CPDMH, AGH and Fairview Manor are proud to take part in Canadian Patient Safety Week 2018. Please ask questions. And visit www.patientsafetyinstitute.ca for valuable information, and informative videos.

Help us to keep patients and residents safe.

1. CHANGES?

Have any medications been added, stopped or changed, and why?

2. CONTINUE?

What medications do I need to keep taking, and why?

3. PROPER USE?

How do I take my medications, and for how long?

4. MONITOR?

How will I know if my medication is working, and what side effects do I watch for?

5. FOLLOW-UP?

Do I need any tests and when do I book my next visit?