

## **Health and Medication Monitoring Services**

The pharmacy students at Auburn University Harrison School of Pharmacy would like to offer their services to the community. These <u>FREE</u> services are available to you:

- Blood pressure and blood sugar checks between doctor visits
- Help with filling pill boxes, if needed
- Assistance with understanding and following medication schedules
- Additional information resource about medications and health information
- Caring students who will visit you at your residence and listen to your health concerns
- An opportunity to share your knowledge to affect the life of a motivated professional pharmacy student

## **Participant Qualifications:**

- Have a chronic medical condition that requires the use of at least two medications
- Be at least 18 years of age or have parent or guardian's consent
- Be willing to have a student pharmacist visit you in your home (or other location) within 30 miles of campus at least once a month
- Be willing to discuss your health condition(s) and medications with student pharmacists
- Able to commit to participating for at least an academic year

If you would like to be visited by a student pharmacist, please contact:

Kathy Kyle Administrative Coordinator Pharmacy Practice Experience AU Harrison School of Pharmacy

Phone: 334-844-8345 Cell: 334-728-0035 Fax: 334-844-4346

Email: kylekat@auburn.edu



## The PPE Program at Auburn University's Harrison School of Pharmacy

The Pharmacy Practice Experience (PPE) program at Auburn University Harrison School of Pharmacy began in Fall 1997 in conjunction with the entry-level Pharm.D. curriculum. The program was gradually implemented until all three levels of Pharm.D. students and all faculty were a part of this longitudinal educational model in 1999-2000. The program is novel within pharmacy education due to the involvement of every single student and faculty member in continuous patient care responsibilities.

For student pharmacists, the purposes of the PPE sequence are to: 1) involve students in the provision of pharmaceutical care, 2) promote professional socialization -- including development of organizational, citizenship, and leadership skills, and 3) develop reflective thinking skills which are the key to successful learning. For the community, the purpose is to provide meaningful assistance with health-related needs and to serve as an additional health resource and advocate.

Our 400 student pharmacists are divided into teams which each contain 15-17 students and 2-3 faculty mentors. At least one mentor on each team is a practicing clinician. The teams meet once a week here in the school, with meetings being based on the medical model. Patients are referenced by initials only, and all teams adhere to HIPAA guidelines. During each meeting, each student updates the team and mentors on the patients for which he/she is responsible.

Patient visits are made on a weekly basis, although a particular patient may not receive a visit every week. Frequency of visits is based on patient need and desire. Two or three student pharmacists go on a patient visit, and each of these "subgroups" of visiting pharmacists is comprised of a mixture of first, second and third year students. Student pharmacists discuss health-related issues and concerns and are able to check blood pressure and assist in filling pill boxes when needed.

Any questions about the program may be directed to Kathy Kyle, 844-8345, or Dr. Dave Brackett, 844-2988.

Briggs and Stratton Attn: Tim Beasley, Human Resources 150 Technology Parkway Auburn, AL 36830

Dear Mr. Beasley,

I would like to share with you information about a free service that is provided by the Auburn University Harrison School of Pharmacy that may be of benefit both to your employees and to your company.

As a part of the curriculum in the School of Pharmacy, our student pharmacists provide health and medication monitoring services to individuals in the community. In this program, first through third year pharmacy students team with pharmacy faculty to assist individuals with their chronic health conditions and medications.

During regular visits (which can vary in frequency from once a month to once a week), student pharmacists can take blood pressure readings, check blood sugars, fill pill boxes, and respond to questions or problems that the participant may have with their health condition or medications. Of course, we conform to HIPPA regulations and all information is held in strict confidence. Because this is an outreach service of the School of Pharmacy, all of this is available at no charge to the participant or employer.

We believe that this program can benefit everyone involved. The benefit to our student pharmacists is in gaining exposure to a wide variety of situations and health issues and the opportunity to improve their clinical and counseling skills. The participant can benefit from improved management of their health conditions and medications, from the information they can receive from the students, and, hopefully, from decreased medical expenditures. Lastly, there are potential benefits to employers in reduced sick time and health care costs in a time where costs continue to rise.

There are no age or income restrictions on enrollment; we simply ask that the participant be willing to commit to participate for at least the academic year and live within thirty miles from the campus.

If you feel that this is something that is worth sharing with your employees, I would very much look forward to the opportunity to discuss it with you in further detail and answer any questions you may have. I am enclosing a program flyer as well as an enrollment form that you may distribute, but am more than happy to present this to your employees as well.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Kathy Kyle Administrative Coordinator, Early Practice Experiences Office of Experiential Learning, Harrison School of Pharmacy Pharmacy students provide free health, medication services

Since 1997, students in the James Harrison School of Pharmacy have been reaching out to the community and gaining valuable real-world pharmaceutical experience at the same time. First- through third-year students participate in the Health and Medication Monitoring Services program as part of their curriculum, offering free services to the community.

These services include blood pressure and blood-sugar checks between doctor visits, help with filling pill boxes, assistance in understanding and following medication schedules, and advice about any concerns participants may have about their health condition or medications. Student pharmacists visit participants at least once a month to administer these services, maybe more depending on the person's need and desire for assistance. All information is strictly confidential, since students conform to HIPAA regulations.

To participate, participants should be at least 18, have a condition that requires at least two medications, and commit to participating for at least one academic year. And, of course, they must be comfortable inviting a student pharmacist in their home and discussing their health condition and medications.

Each student involved in the Health and Medication Monitoring Services program is on a team of up to 17 other students and two to three faculty mentors, at least one of which is a participating clinician. For more information about the Health and Medication Monitoring Services program, contact Kathy Kyle at (334) 844-8345 or <a href="kylekat@auburn.edu">kylekat@auburn.edu</a>.