

# Your Health



NEWS AND INFORMATION FROM GEORGETOWN HOSPITAL

SEPTEMBER 2013

## Medication Reconciliation: We all have a role to play

When you or your loved one arrives at the hospital, a healthcare professional will ask about the current medications that you are taking. Why is this crucial? The short answer is simple - to keep you safe, while in hospital. To do that, we need you to bring a list of all of your medications (or your actual medications), with you to the hospital. This list should include **all** medications being taken, such as prescriptions, over-the-counter and herbal medications.

This medication list provides the healthcare team with important information that will help guide your treatment and care. It may also alert them to any possible drug interactions.

The goal is to ensure the best possible and most accurate medications for your treatment plan, and part of achieving that starts with getting the Best Possible Medication History (BPMH). This home medication list provides the foundation for Medication Reconciliation and is compared with current in-hospital medications at - admission, transfer between departments and discharge.

Remember, we all have a role to play in Medication Safety and it begins with you.

## Mental Illness Awareness Week

**October 6-12, 2013** is Mental Illness Awareness Week. This annual event was established to open the eyes of Canadians to the reality of mental illness and end the associated stigma that individuals often experience.

The Mental Health Program at *Halton Healthcare Services* aims to provide high-quality, client centred services to individuals experiencing moderate to severe mental health issues. Services are offered across the lifespan with specialty resources dedicated to children, youth, adults, and seniors. For more information log on to [www.haltonhealthcare.com](http://www.haltonhealthcare.com).

## Join us at the Patient Safety Expo

*Halton Healthcare Services (HHS)* invites you to join us for the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Patient Safety Expo this fall. Learn about the patient safety initiatives that are happening at your Hospital! Past displays have been on falls prevention, the new medication dispensing units at our Hospitals, and demonstrations about the Work-Fit services such as massage! The three day Expo showcases up to 60 quality-safety displays from HHS physicians and staff and is a great way for HHS to share current and upcoming patient safety initiatives with hospital staff, volunteers and the public.

The Patient Safety Expo is held in celebration of Canadian Patient Safety week, October 28 – November 1, 2013.

Please drop-in to the Georgetown Hospital Activity Room on October 29, 2013, anytime between 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. to learn about the wonderful patient safety improvement initiatives happening at HHS.

## Participate in the Ontario Health Study

The *Ontario Health Study* is an ongoing research study investigating risk factors that cause diseases like cancer, diabetes, heart disease, asthma and Alzheimer's. If you live in Ontario and are 18 years or older, you can take part by filling out the health related questionnaires online. Researchers will use this health information to study how lifestyle, environment and family history affect health over time and to develop strategies for the prevention, early detection and treatment of diseases.

Fill out the questionnaire or learn more about the Study at [www.ontariohealthstudy.ca](http://www.ontariohealthstudy.ca).



## Georgetown Hospital Expansion Community Sneak Peek Event

**Sunday, September 29, 2013**

Self-guided tours will run from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
Georgetown Hospital  
1 Princess Anne Drive, Georgetown  
Free parking

Georgetown Hospital (GH) is opening the doors to its new Emergency Department offering residents a preview of the new space.

### Highlights:

- 14,000 sq. ft. of modern clinical space to accommodate more than 32,000 annual visits
- Enclosed individual treatment rooms for increased privacy and comfort
- A specialized treatment room designed and equipped for the acute care of infants and young children
- A specialized trauma room for the immediate treatment of critically ill or injured adult patients
- A specialized treatment room for patients with infectious diseases

The Emergency Department expansion is the first phase of a multi-phased redevelopment project at GH. The project's next major milestone is the installation and start-up of the Hospital's first CT scanner which will happen in late November.

The transition to the new space will take place over a period of three weeks. The Emergency Department staff will begin seeing patients in the new space on October 9, 2013.

## Volunteer in the new Emergency Department!

The *Volunteer Services Department* at Georgetown Hospital is recruiting individuals who are interested in volunteering in the new Emergency Department (ED) waiting room. Volunteers in the ED will play a supportive role to staff, patients and their families. This position is best suited to volunteers 18 years of age and older. To receive more information about this or other volunteer opportunities, including ones for high school students, please call the Volunteer Department at 905-873-0111, ext. 8153, email [jcowen@haltonhealthcare.on.ca](mailto:jcowen@haltonhealthcare.on.ca) or visit the volunteer section of the *Halton Healthcare Services* website at [www.haltonhealthcare.com](http://www.haltonhealthcare.com).



*New Georgetown Hospital Emergency Department*

**WANT A SNEAK PEEK OF THE NEW ER  
BEFORE IT OPENS FOR PATIENT CARE?  
SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 29, 2013**

**WALK for  
Georgetown Hospital**

[WWW.GEORGETOWNHOSPITALFOUNDATION.CA](http://WWW.GEORGETOWNHOSPITALFOUNDATION.CA)



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