



News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SARPY/CASS DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & WELLNESS SPONSORS MEDICATION SAFETY WORKSHOP

September 12, 2013, Papillion - The Sarpy/Cass Department of Health & Wellness, in partnership with Creighton University School of Pharmacy, will sponsor a free medication safety workshop on Monday, October 21 from 1:30-2:30 p.m. at Immanuel Lutheran Church, 104 Galvin Road North, in Bellevue. Individuals wanting to learn more about safely managing their medications or reducing health risks associated with taking multiple medications are welcome to attend.

Participants will experience a one-hour workshop with representatives from Creighton University School of Pharmacy. During this workshop, participants will discuss:

- How individuals can better manage use of multiple medications.
- The risks and benefits of using over-the-counter medications.
- Potential medication interactions and medication safety.

According to the National Council on Patient Information and Education (NCPPIE), there are many health benefits to both prescription and over-the-counter medications, however there are also risks. Older adults are disproportionately affected by the risks of inappropriate medication use because older adults “take more medicines than any other age group in the United States,” (NCPPIE, 2010). The adverse affects of poorly managed medication use in the elderly can lead to “additional illness, drug-related hospitalizations and even death.”

“This program is a wonderful opportunity to teach about medication safety, while providing pharmacy students with hands-on experience working in community health,” commented Nicole Evans, Community Health Educator with the Sarpy/Cass Department of Health. “We are thrilled to partner with Creighton University to offer this valuable education program.”

There is no fee to attend this program and pre-registration is required. Call 402-339-4334 ext. 209 or email nevans@sarpy.com by October 16 to register. For more information on the Senior CARE Program or upcoming events, please visit www.sarpycasshealthdepartment.org/Seniors.html.

The Sarpy/Cass Department of Health & Wellness strives to improve the lives of citizens living in Sarpy and Cass counties by promoting the health of our community through disease prevention, partnerships, policy development and health education.

Reference:

National Council on Patient Information and Education (NCPPIE). (2010). *Older Adults, Who Are Especially Susceptible to Medicine Use Related Problems, MUST Take Time Out to Talk About Their Medications*. Retrieved September 10, 2012 from http://www.mustforseniors.org/documents/must_featurearticle.pdf

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