Self Care: Over The Counter (OTC) Drug Therapy

William Beaumont Army Medical Center
Self Care Program
• Encourage and provide the Fort Bliss community with information to “take care of themselves” while promoting good health.
• Identify the use of common medications that are available through the Self-Care Program at WBAMC.
• Understand the procedure to obtain Over The Counter (OTC) medications.
• Identify safe practices in the disposal of medications.
Instructions

- Please review all the slides.
- This is an hour long presentation.
- Suggest making copies of the slides using the “handout” selection with 6 slides per sheet.
  - Handout will be a reference tool for treatment.
  - Helpful during registration for exam
  - Helps answer the questions on the post test.
- The post test has 10 questions with no time limit.
- Passing grade is 70%.
- Be sure to make a copy of your passing test results for your OTC medication card and books.
• Health is more than the absence of disease. It is a state of physical, mental, emotional, social, and spiritual well-being.

• When you are healthy, you feel good. You have achieved a balance of the competing demands of personal desires, family, work, friends, and community.

• Health is a positive state of well-being
What Affects Health?

- You are a synthesis of nature and nurture. You have inherited your genetics and cannot change this. But you create your health by the choices you make each day.

- Two-thirds of illness can be prevented by making healthy choices every day. Choosing a low fat, balanced diet, daily exercise, and maintaining recommended body weight promotes good health. Avoiding tobacco, alcohol, illegal drugs, and high risk behaviors prevents illness and injury.
• Over 80 percent of all medical appointments and Emergency Room visits for new problems may be unnecessary. These visits are often for minor health problems.
What Is Self-Care?

- Self care is about becoming an active participant in your own health care.
- Self care is about recognizing and taking care of the small problems before they become big.
- It is about learning what you can do to take care of yourself and when you need to see your doctor.
• Once the class is completed, patients may obtain up to 4 different items per four weeks per household (DoD card beneficiaries).
• Patients obtaining medications for their family MUST present a valid military ID card.
• Patients may select items for themselves or family members as long as they meet the age requirement.
Medication Usage

- OTC medications are used for minor and temporary conditions.
- Use OTCs as directed/when indicated
- Use fewest possible medications for the shortest possible time.
- Take medication correctly.
- If no relief of symptoms in 24/48 hours, contact your healthcare provider.
- **Always consult your child’s doctor if under 2 years of age.**
Medication Storage

- Store as directed on package.
- Protect from light and moisture.
- Always keep in original container.
- Keep lid tightly closed.
- Keep all medications out of reach of children.
Commonly Available OTC Medications at Medical Treatment Facilities (MTFs)

- Acetaminophen (Tylenol)
- Ibuprofen (Advil)
- Diphenhydramine (Benadryl)
- Actifed
- Cepacol
- Sudafed
- Maalox
- Mylicon infant drops

- Guaifenesin (Robitussin)
- Pepto Bismol
- Afrin nasal spray
- AYR nasal drops
- Hydrocortisone 1% cream
- Bacitracin Ointment
- Lotrimin 1% cream
- Gyne Lotrimin
- Foot Powder
FRONT: NON-PRESCRIPTION DRUG SELF-CARE PROGRAM
I am aware that I am participating in a self-care program. I understand that in order to properly perform self-care and safely treat any symptom(s) of condition(s) that I may have, I must read the information provided by the WBAMC Pharmacy. I also understand that I am responsible for carefully following the directions for use of any medication received through this program. I also verify that I am requesting treatment option(s) voluntarily.
I agree that I will not share medication with anyone and that I will be the sole user.

Print Name of Patient               Date of Birth                  Last 4 of Sponsor SS
Signature of Patient or Parent/Guardian  Date
**BACK Evaluation is important, so that we can continue to:** SELF-CARE PROGRAM EVALUATION **improve and offer this service!**

Instructions Please circle one response for each of the following questions. If not sure, leave that question blank.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>NA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Are You Active Duty Dependent Child Dependent Spouse, Reservist, Retiree, Beneficiary? (circle one option)</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. I used Self-care instead of an Emergency Room visit.</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. I used Self-care instead of making a Tricare Same Day Appointment.</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. I avoided missing training time by using Self-care.</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. I used Self-care instead of Sick Call.</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. The Self-care class and manual helped me decide to use Self-care or seek medical care via Sick Call, Same Day Appointment or Emergency Room.</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Have you used Self-care within the last 30 days or the same illness?</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. The Self Care Program is a benefit to my health.</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Administering Medication Guidelines

• Read and understand the instructions.
• Double-check strength of medication.
• Does the patient have any medication allergies to the medication?
• Use a product medication measuring device OR a very accurate equivalent measuring device.
• Don’t use medications that have expired.
• For children, do not refer to medication as “candy”.
• Before crushing or splitting a tablet, double-check that product can be altered.
Medication Checklist - Things to think about before dosing!

- What is the medication name (is it a generic brand for another product I already have?)
- What does the medication do?
- How much of the medication do I give?
- How often do I give the medication? (NEVER) give more often than recommended
- How long do I need to continue giving the medication?
- Are there special instructions (refrigerate, shake, etc.)?
- What are the common side effects?
- What other medications am I taking? (Can this be taken with my other medications?)
- Can I take or use this medication with my medical condition (for example high blood pressure)?
The symptoms that you or your child are experiencing should guide your selection of OTC products.

Certain “classes” of medications are used to treat symptoms:

- Runny nose, itchy eyes = antihistamine
- Dry hacking cough = cough suppressant
- Chest congestion = expectorant
- Nasal congestion = decongestant
- Pain and fever = pain reliever
Examples of OTC Products

- Antihistamine products
  - Diphenhydramine (Benadryl), chlorpheniramine (CTM)
- Decongestant products
  - Pseudoephedrine (Sudafed)
- Cough suppressant
  - Guaifenesin/Dextromethorphan (RobitussinDM)
Examples

- Expectorants
  - Guaifenesin (Robitussin)
- Pain reliever
  - Acetaminophen (Tylenol)
  - Ibuprofen (Advil) also helps with swelling
- Fever
  - Acetaminophen (Tylenol)
  - Ibuprofen (Advil) in children greater than 6 months old
• If your child is less than 3 months old and has a fever greater than 100.5 °F, seek medical care as soon as possible.

• If your child is ages 3 months to 3 years, has a fever of 103 degrees or higher for 24 hours, seek medical care.

• Seek medical care for fevers lasting 3 days that require the repeated use of fever reducer.

• If symptoms persist, worsen, or if new symptoms develop, contact a physician.
• Disclaimer: Read all of the over-the-counter (OTC) packaging for proper directions and precautions. A pharmacist is available on duty to answer any of your questions.

• “Know your MEDICINE, know your Pharmacist”
• Treatment of pain and fever.
• Do not exceed a total dose of 3,200 mg per day of Acetaminophen.
• It is important to read the ingredients on the label!! APAP is a common abbreviation for acetaminophen and the brand name is Tylenol. Be aware of other OTC and Prescription drugs that contain this.
• **Talk to your doctor about giving to children less than 2 years and ask for the correct dose!**
• Avoid alcohol consumption and aspirin while taking this drug.
Ibuprofen (Advil)

- Pain reliever and fever reducer
- Helps reduce inflammation and pain due to inflamed muscles
- Do not give to children less than 2 years of age without consulting a physician
• Nasal Decongestant

• Should consult with provider before using if you have heart disease, high blood pressure, diabetes, thyroid disease, or problems with enlarged prostate.
Pseudoephedrine (Sudafed)

- Can cause increased blood pressure.
- Stop taking if causes dizziness, anxiety, or sleepiness.
- Do not use if taking a medication called a monoamine oxidase inhibitor (MAO-I). If you don’t know if your medication contains an MAO-I, please ask your pharmacist or doctor.
Hydrocortisone 1% Cream

- Relief of inflammatory and pruritic (itchy) manifestations of minor skin irritations, inflammation, and rashes.

- For external use only.

- Apply sparingly in a light film; rub in gently. Washing or soaking the area before application may increase drug penetration.
• Use only as directed. Do not put bandages, dressing, cosmetics, or other skin products over the treated area unless directed by a physician.

• Notify a physician if the condition being treated worsens, or if burning, swelling, or redness develops.
• Help prevent infection in minor cuts, burns, wounds, and scrapes.

• Consider referral to a physician in the following situations:
  • Uncertainty over cause of infection.
  • Top layer of skin is missing from a large area.
• Consider contacting a physician if the following situations apply:
  • Draining and pain of the lancing.
  • Infection is widespread.
  • Deep lesions cover a wide area of skin.
  • Underlying illness, which may predispose patients to serious abrasions.
  • Unsuccessful initial attempt at treatment, or worsened condition.
• Clean the affected area prior to applying the drug.

• May be covered with sterile bandage if desired.

• For external use only.

• Do not use in or near the eyes.
• Symptomatic relief of heartburn, gastroesophageal reflux, acid indigestion, sour stomach, gastritis, and peptic ulcers.

• If symptoms worsen or persist for longer than 7 days, consult a physician.
• Consult your physician if you have kidney disease.

• Maalox may interact with certain prescription drugs. Consult with your physician or pharmacist.
• Shake well before using.

• Children under 12 years of age: consult a physician.
Guaifenesin (Robitussin)

- Facilitate the removal of mucus from the respiratory tract.
- Not for persistent, nonproductive cough.
- If cough persists for more than 7 days, tends to recur, or is accompanied by fever, rash, or persistent headache, consult a physician.
• Drink a glass of water or other fluid with each dose of guaifenesin.

• Most medical professionals believe that fluid intake is responsible for thinning respiratory tract mucus and may be as valuable or more so than guaifenesin itself.
• Guaifenesin DM is a combination product that contains guaifenesin and dextromethorphan (DM). This is an expectorant and cough suppressant.

• DM is indicated for the control of a dry, nonproductive cough.
• Do not use Guaifenesin DM for persistent or chronic cough.
• Do not use Guaifenesin DM when cough is accompanied by excessive secretions.
  • You could be suppressing a cough and not allowing the secretions to get out of the lungs.
Patients with the following conditions should use Guaifenesin DM only under medical supervision:

- High fever
- Rash
- Persistent headache
- Nausea
- Vomiting

If a cough continues beyond 7 days, consult a physician. These medications are restricted to ages 12 and older.
Saline Nasal Mist

- To provide moisture to inflamed nasal passages and facilitate drainage of thickened nasal secretions.
- Do not share intranasal containers with other patients.
- **Antihistamine**
- For the relief of mild, uncomplicated allergic skin manifestations.
- May cause drowsiness.
- Keep out of reach of children.
- May cause nervousness.
- Avoid alcohol and other CNS depressants.
- May cause dry mouth.
• Avoid prolonged exposure to sunlight.

• Consult a physician if you have the following conditions:
  • Glaucoma
  • Peptic ulcer
  • Asthma
  • Urinary retention
  • Pregnancy
Disposal of medications that are expired or not needed

• For several years, many people thought that the best way to dispose of medications was to flush them down the toilet or to dissolve them in the sink.

• We know now that this is not good routine practice as these unwanted medications can get into our drinking water.
• In order to protect our environment, the Federal Government has put together some guidelines:
  
  • Unused, unwanted, or expired prescription drugs should be taken out of their original containers and thrown in the trash.
  • They can be mixed in an empty can with coffee grounds or kitty litter and sealed shut and then discarded. The can should not be labeled. This will reduce the risk of someone removing from trash.
Disposal of medications that are expired or not needed by WBAMC Policy

Do you have Unused or Expired Medications?
Drop them off at one of the following sites!

**Accepted:**
- Tablets, capsules, creams, gels, inhalers, aerosols, liquids, patches, and powders

**NOT accepted:**
- Needles, sharps, syringes, bandages, thermometers, glucose meters, medical tape

- WBAMC 3rd floor
- Freedom Crossing Lobby
- SFMC Pharmacy Lobby
- Mendoza Clinic

*NEW* East Bliss Clinic*NEW*
Safely and conveniently dispose of unused and expired medications
Disposal of medications that are expired or not needed

- Medications should be flushed down the toilet only if the label or accompanying patient information instructs to do so.

- See the following policy letter for the official guidance from the FDA and a list of medications that should still be flushed down the toilet. [www.whitehousedrugpolicy.gov/publications/pdf/prescri_pdisposal.pdf]
Now you’re ready to register

• Go to the site but follow instructions below
  • http://quizstar.4teachers.org/indexs.jsp

• Follow the next Slides to Register, Enroll and Take the Quiz
Never should you submit Personally Identifiable Information (PII) or Protected Health Information (PHI) over the Internet.

By utilizing this program, you agree that the Department of Defense, the United States Government and its Medical Providers are not responsible, and shall have no liability to you, with respect to any information or materials posted by either yourself or others, including defamatory, offensive or illicit material, even material that violates this Agreement.

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Welcome to QuizStar!

QuizStar is very easy to use!

First visit to QuizStar?
1. Sign up
2. Search for your teacher's classes
3. Register for classes
4. Start taking quizzes

Returning to QuizStar?
1. Login
2. View quizzes to take
3. Review previously taken quizzes
4. Search for additional classes

Username:
Password:
• Enter
  • First Name
  • Last Name
  • Username (example first initial of last name then sponsors last four) or your choice
  • Password of your choice
Finding The Quiz

Welcome, Joe doe Profile - Logout

Classes

The classes for which you have registered are listed below. Each class has its own quizzes. Click on the link to the class page to see which quizzes you need to take or may review. Click on the Search button above to look for additional classes to register for. You cannot remove these classes once you enroll. Your instructor will need to remove you from the class if you are to no longer take its quizzes.
Finding The Quiz

- Look under “Quiz Search”
- Enter “Self”
  - Care – “William Beaumont Army Medical Cen”
- Then Click Exact Match
- It is important to use exact spelling and spacing as above
Registering for the quiz

- Check Box beside “SELF CARE – WILLIAM BEAUMONT ARMY MEDICAL CEN”

- Click Register
Now you’re registered

- Click Classes
Classes
The classes for which you have registered are listed below. Each class has own quizzes. Click on the link to the class page to see which quizzes you need to take or may click on the Search button above to look for additional classes to register for. You cannot remove the classes once you enroll. Your instructor will need to remove you from the class if you are to no longer taking its quizzes.

• Click Untaken Quizzes
Click Take
• You may now start the Quiz

• Feel free to refer to the slides throughout the quiz

• If you receive a score of 70% or higher, **print your results page** (see next slide). Come to any of the OP Pharmacy locations throughout Ft. Bliss or Preventive Medicine, Mendoza Clinic to get your OTC Medication Card and Self Care Information.
Print page and present to WBAMC staff at any WBAMC Pharmacy or Preventive Medicine at Mendoza Clinic.
Thank You

FROM
WILLIAM BEAUMONT ARMY MEDICAL CENTER
DEPARTMENTS OF PHARMACY,
PREVENTIVE MEDICINE,
ARMY PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING
&
HEALTH PROMOTION & WELLNESS
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References