## In the Know With



July 2021 • Issue #008

In This Issue
Outdoor Summer Safety
Tips for Residents

BEWARE OF TICKS!



Two \$1,000 Scholarships Available for BSN or MSN Students
New! Prior Covid-19 Infection Reduces Infection Risk for 10 Months



### The Benefits of Using a Long-Term Care Pharmacy

There are many long-term care and residential agencies that use retail/neighborhood pharmacies for their residents' prescription needs. While every pharmacy serves an important role in providing healthcare services, long-term care pharmacies truly understand the culture and the needs of the facility agencies.

Long-term care pharmacies provide specialty services such as prescription processing, dispensing and delivery, medication administration records and management, and the ability to respond to emergencies to fill prescriptions 24/7.

Hudson Regional LTC Pharmacy truly understands the needs of ID/DD residents, and we are committed to supporting the agencies that care for these individuals. This includes our staff working directly with residents' physicians; residential nursing staff is provided with all the medication records including the benefits, side effects, and possible interactions; and all deliveries are made on time to ensure evening and bedtime routines are not interrupted.

That is the difference at Hudson Regional Long-Term Care Pharmacy!





## Accuracy & Accountability You Can Count On!

At Hudson Regional LTC Pharmacy, we use a barcoding system for accuracy and accountability throughout our entire process. From filling the medications to delivery, we can tell you exactly who works on the orders to who places the medications in the bags for deliveries. While barcoding is a reliable system, we take it one step further with a signature and initial process on each medication before it gets delivered to a patient. Accountability is a key process to quality assurance.

Call us today to Discover the Difference in your pharmacy care.

845-341-2714



#### A Letter From Our CEO

**Keep Cool & Enjoy the Summer** 

In this issue of In the Know, we really wanted to focus on things related to summer safety. You'll find an informative article about ticks and how to prevent encounters while you're outdoors this summer along with best practices for protecting your skin from the sun.

Another important thing to remember is to keep cool while you're outside to prevent heat-related illnesses such as heat exhaustion or heatstroke. Those who are most at risk for heat-related illnesses are older adults, very young children, people with chronic diseases, and mental illness, according to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Be sure to stay cool and hydrated if you plan to spend a lot of time outdoors, go into the A/C as much as possible, and don't ignore signs of feeling nauseous, cold sweating, or dizzy.

We just want everyone to be safe and healthy and enjoy the summer!



Yours in Health, Angelo Angerame

CEO, Hudson Regional Long Term Care Pharmacy On another note, as we celebrate the Fourth of July this year, we are very lucky to include in the long list of things we're proud to be Americans for is the way our country responded to the Covid crisis this past year. Our country's access and execution to dispersing the Covid-vaccine was unlike any other country. As a nation, and each of us as individual Americans took on the responsibility to combatting this virus and caring for one another, and that is something we should really take pride in during this year's Independence Celebration.

We are also looking forward to the final FDA approval of the Moderna and Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccines, which means they will be moved from emergency use authorization (EUA) to final approval status, which will help people feel even more confident in the safety and efficacy of these vaccines.

Don't forget about the two \$1,000 scholarships available for BSN and MSN students. Applications are being accepted through August 15, 2021. We're excited to help fund the education for someone who is going to work with the developmentally disabled. Find out more about eligibility and how to apply on page 6.

#### Outdoor Summer Safety Tips

## Residents from Ticks During Outdoor Summer Activities

Spending free time enjoying the outdoors is a part of summer, but be sure to take some extra precautionary steps to protect your residents, yourself and your loved ones from ticks. Ticks are known to be most active in the spring, summer and fall months. They avoid heat and direct sunlight, which is why they can be found in cooler areas that provide shade from the sun such as trees, brush, or tall grass. One of the most reported tick-borne diseases in New York State is Lyme disease, which is a bacterial infection that spreads when a deer tick (black-legged tick) bites a person and remains attached for 36 hours or more.

Throughout the past 10 years, New York State has averaged more than 7,500 new cases each year. In a recent press release, New York State Health Commissioner Dr. Howard Zucker encouraged all New York residents to take proper precautions to protect themselves during summertime.

"As we continue our efforts to defeat COVID-19 and return to normal, including returning to the activities we love, we encourage all New Yorkers to enjoy the outdoors while also taking the proper steps to protect themselves from mosquitos and ticks to avoid potential illness," Zucker said. "As infected mosquitoes and ticks can be found in outdoor areas across the state, prevention remains the most effective method to protect yourself and others from exposure to mosquitoes and ticks that can transmit diseases like West Nile virus, eastern equine encephalitis virus, or Lyme disease."

The New York State Health Department recommends these precautions while hiking or spending time in wooded areas this summer:

**How to Protect** 

- Wear long pants and long-sleeved shirts for protection. Consider treating clothing with permethrin
- Check for ticks often while outdoors and brush off any before they attach
- Perform a full body check multiple times during the day, as well as at the end of the day, to ensure that no ticks are attached
- Tumble clothes in a dryer on high heat for 10 minutes to kill ticks on dry clothing after you come indoors. If the clothes are damp, additional time may be needed
- Shower soon after coming indoors
- Consider using EPA-registered insect repellents containing DEET, picaridin or IR3535, following label instructions

#### **Resident Fun In The Sun**

Before hitting the lake, pool, park, or any other fun in the sun activities, do not forget to lather up with sunscreen. All it takes is 15 minutes of exposure to sunlight for the ultraviolet (UV) rays to damage skin and increase the risk of skin cancer. Protect skin from wrinkles, dryness, freckles, and dark blotches by following these skin safety tips:

- 1. Apply sunscreen often. Even before leaving. Opt for a broad-spectrum sunscreen and make sure you reapply every two hours.
- 2. Always wear a hat. Anything to keep the sun away will help. If wearing a baseball hat, don't forget to apply sunscreen to ears and neck.
- 3. Use protective gear and clothing. Even if wearing a hat, sunglasses will protect eyes from UV rays and help reduce the risks of cataracts. Choose sunglasses that block both UVA and UVB rays.
- 4. Stay cool in the shade. Whether it's an umbrella, outdoor tent, or tree, make sure to find some shade when enjoying the outdoors.

  Midday tends to be the hottest part of the day so make sure to protect skin by staying in the shade as much as possible.

#### Industry News

#### Good News For Residents: Study Finds Prior Covid-19 Infection Reduces Infection Risk for 10 Months

A promising new study published by The Lancet Healthy Longevity showed that long-term care residents who were previously infected by Covid-19 were approximately 85 percent less likely to be infected between October and February than those who had not been infected.

Staff members were 60 percent less likely to become infected again compared to those who had not had the infection.

This study observed 682 care home residents who had a median age of 86, and 1,429 staff in 100 care homes in England. Out of this sample group, one-third tested positive for the presence of the Coronavirus antibodies last June and July.

The lead author of the study, Dr. Maria Krutikov of UCL Institute of Health Informatics, said, "It's really good news that natural infection protects against reinfection in this time period. The risk of being infected twice appears to be very low. The fact that prior Covid-19 infection gives a high level of protection to care, home residents, is also reassuring, given past concerns that these individuals might have less robust immune responses associated with increasing age. These findings are particularly important as this vulnerable group has not been the focus of much research."

Biden's Budget
Includes
Allocated
Funding
For Special
Ed and
Disability Services

Part of President Joe Biden's proposed \$6 trillion budget includes investing in home and community-based services for individuals with disabilities. Biden's request to Congress includes the following:

- \$400 billion in funding for people with disabilities and older adults to live in the community rather than nursing homes or other institutional settings.
- \$16 billion for services provided to students in preschool through high school under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).
   IDEA ensures that all children with disabilities are entitled to a free appropriate public education to meet their unique needs and prepare them for further education, employment, and independent living.
- \$250 million for early intervention.

This \$6 trillion budget is Biden's wish list for Congress to consider for the 2022 fiscal year, which starts in October.

Call us today to Discover the Difference in your pharmacy care.

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4

# HELPING YOU ACHIEVE YOUR DREAMS!

Are you currently enrolled in a BSN or MSN nursing program? If so, we are currently accepting online applications for the Hudson Regional LTC Pharmacy scholarship!



## Two \$1,000 Scholarships Available for BSN or MSN Students

Hudson Regional LTC Pharmacy is offering two \$1000 scholarships to registered nurses (RN) who are working in New York State in the field of intellectual / developmental disabilities nursing and are enrolled in a program toward a bachelor's or master's degree in nursing.

"Nurses are always heroes! We want to celebrate them and we want to help elevate people who want to invest in their future," said Angelo Angerame CEO, Hudson Regional LTC Pharmacy. "While we may not be in the facilities that we serve, we believe we are members of the care team. We want to support all of the different team members, and one way we are able to do that is with these two \$1,000 scholarships."

#### To be eligible, an applicant must meet the following requirements:

1. Is an RN currently working in the intellectual/developmental disabilities field.

2. Is enrolled full-time or part-time in a BSN or MSN nursing program, is taking courses towards a BSN/MSN, or is enrolled/accepted into a BSN or MSN program to begin in the fall 2021 semester.

3. Works in an ID/DD agency in New York State.

4. Intends to continue working as an ID/DD nurse in New York State upon graduation.

Applications are due on Sunday, August 15, 2021. For more information on these scholarships and how to apply, visit The New York State Intellectual and Developmental Disability Nurses Association website at *www.nysidddna.org*.

\*\*Hudson Regional LTC Pharmacy is not affiliated with NYS ID/DD Nurses Association nor is NYS ID/DD Nurses Association affiliated with Hudson Regional LTC Pharmacy. The scholarships will be awarded in September 2021. The NYS ID/DD Nurses Association will appoint a scholarship selection committee from among its members and will make a recommendation to Hudson Regional LTC Pharmacy regarding whom to award the scholarships. Hudson Regional LTC Pharmacy will provide the scholarships directly to the recipients.



**Staff Promotion** 

Benzyb Bonete
Delivery/Pre-Delivery

Manager

Wednesday, July 28

Summertime is in full swing and what's not to love about enjoying all that the outdoors has to offer in New York? One of our favorite summertime traditions at Hudson Perional LTC Pharmacuies

in New York? One of our favorite summertime traditions at Hudson Regional LTC Pharmacy is to host an employee and staff BBQ appreciation party in late July. It's just a way for us to say thank you to our staff for how hard they continuously work to serve our facility partners and patients.

Call us today to Discover the Difference in your pharmacy care.

845-341-2714

 $\mathbf{6}$ 

What You Need is Less Time with Pharmacy Care and More Time to Provide Direct Patient Care. WE CAN HELP!

Switching is as easy as...

Have a Discovery Call with Us & Your Director of Nursing

Call us at: 845-341-2714

Allow Us to Schedule an On-Boarding Call with Our Transition Team

3 Sit Back & Relax :)







Patient Dir of Nursing &

Address Exec. Director

Hudson Regional
Long Term Pharmacy

- Service That Means A Smile
- All Deliveries Before Resident Bedtimes
- We Take Care Of You, So You Can Take Care of Patients

Because... It's the Right Thing to Do

Refil 012345

Permission

