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**REMINDER:**

To schedule a clinic appointment, call (319)356-8133.

For refill requests, contact our clinic nurse, Laura Goddard at (319)356-8818.

If you have a medical emergency during the 8am-5pm work day, please try contacting your doctor.

If your doctor is unavailable, you may call the hospital operator at (319)356-1616 and ask for the Infectious Disease doctor on call.

Social work questions and concerns should be directed to Tricia Kroll at (319)384-7307.

# The Virology Newsletter

Spring 2009

## PLANTING SEEDS TO A HEALTHY LIFE

### The 2009 Wellness Summit—May 8, 9, 10

This year P.I.T.C.H. (Positive Iowans Taking Charge) are proud to host this year's Wellness Summit for Iowans living with HIV.

The Wellness Summit is designed to assist HIV+ Iowans to improve their overall health and quality of life. Participants are also encouraged to share their experiences and knowledge with others who might be going through similar challenges.

All Iowans living with HIV who are able to attend the event are encouraged to register.



However, participation is limited to 40 people.

This year's Wellness Summit "Planting Seeds to a Healthy Life" offers three days of workshops, outdoor exercise, relaxation and socialization. All in an effort to provide HIV+ Iowans with an opportunity to gather in a peaceful, non-threatening environment.

\*Contact your local Case Manager of local AIDS service organizations for more information.

(Source P.I.T.C.H. flyer)

## Ryan White Part C Applications Due

The 2009-2010 Ryan White Part C fiscal year begins July 1, 2009 and ends June 30, 2010. Attached you will find the application that needs to be completed and returned in the self-addressed stamped envelope by June 1, 2009. All patients at or below 300%

of the Federal Poverty guidelines (\$32,490 for a family of 1) are eligible to apply. A copy of your disability and/or pay stub must accompany the application. If you want credit for monthly insurance premiums you pay, please include that verification as well. A delay in

completing your Ryan White renewal will be the patient's responsibility. Please contact Tricia Kroll at (319)384-7307 if you have questions, concerns, or need assistance completing the application.

Thank you.

## No More Complimentary Parking

As you know, UIHC complimentary parking program for outpatient clinic visits has ended. Parking is \$.90/hour. If you enter the parking ramps prior to 9:00 a.m., please bring your ticket with you to receive a sticker to get you the \$.90/hr. rate (parking before 9:00 a.m. has a graduated rate and will cost more without the clinic's sticker).

If you find you are unable to pay the parking ramp fee, notify the parking ramp attendant that you are unable to pay the fee. A **Parking Fee Notice** form will then be filled out. You will need to provide a photo ID, Social Security #, driver's license #, name,

address, and license plate information. UI Parking will then send you a bill. A service charge of \$2.50 will be added to the parking fee that is due.

We have been advised that UI Parking hopes to begin accepting credit cards in the ramps within the next few weeks.

If you have complaints/concerns about the new policy, you may contact the Patient Representative Program at (319)356-1802.

## Iowa Care Prescription Drug Service

University of Iowa Health Care Pharmacies are pleased to continue offering prescription drug services for patients enrolled in the IowaCare program. In an effort to maintain this service, the following changes will be effective March 1, 2009:

1. A copay of \$4.00 will be charged for each medication supplied. Most covered medications will be provided in 60-day quantities.
  2. The maximum out-of-pocket patient responsibility for copays will be \$20.00 per calendar month. University of Iowa Health Care Pharmacies will provide medications free of charge after the \$20.00 per calendar month out-of-pocket maximum is met. Mailing or shipping fees are different than copays and are not included in the out-of-pocket maximum.
  3. UI Health Care Pharmacies will continue to mail prescription refills.
- \* **ALL** requests for mailing will generate a mailing/shipping fee.

- \* Prescription groups requiring normal postage will be charged \$5.00 *in addition to* the copays noted above.

- \* Prescription groups requiring refrigeration or other special handling will be charged \$10.00 *in addition to* the copays noted above.
- \* Patients should request all needed medications at the same time to avoid multiple shipping fees.
- 4. The list of covered medications will continue to be defined by University of Iowa Health Care Pharmacies.

Payment is expected at the time of service if present at UI Health Care, or within 30 days of mailing. Acceptable forms of payment include MasterCard®, Visa®, cash and check. Bills will be generated and mailed on the first business day of the following month.

If you have questions after reading this information, please contact our pharmacy billing office at 319-353-7516.

Thank you.

(Source: University of Iowa Health Care Pharmacies information sheet)

## Adherence Study Surveys

The clinic pharmacist, Dena Dillon, in collaboration with the University of Iowa College of Pharmacy, will be conducting a study on adherence.

You will receive a request to complete a survey. We are mailing it to you in an effort to learn about what affects the adherence to antiretroviral medication.

If you have any questions about the survey, please call Dena's office at (319)356-4208 any time day or night and leave a message for her to return your call, or email her at dena-dillon@uiowa.edu.



### Coming Attractions

*Coming Attractions* is a weekend social group for persons living with HIV. It is a great chance to meet new people and get away for a weekend. Activities include movies, dinner, discussion, games, a picnic, and outdoor activities. Free food, lodging, and gas cards also included! Rides can be arranged. Space is limited, so register with Andy Weigel at Johnson County Public Health at (319)356-6040 or email him at aweigel@co.johnson.ia.us.

### AT LAST, YOU CAN TAKE ACTION IN HIV-ASSOCIATED DIARRHEA

- ◆ HAVE YOU BEEN DIAGNOSED WITH HIV?
- ◆ DO YOU HAVE DIARRHEA?
- ◆ ARE YOU AT LEAST 18 YEARS OLD?

If so, you may be able to participate in a clinical study looking at a new investigational treatment for managing HIV-associated diarrhea.

For more information, please contact Kathy at (319)356-3071 or Rina at (319)384-9017.

## Farewell to Clinic Pharmacist

Due to budget constraints, I will be leaving the clinic at the end of June. I am very thankful to have been able to do what I love doing for this long, and have thoroughly enjoyed the work... both patients and the staff! I am hoping to continue working with HIV in some capacity.

Perhaps in the future as the financial situation improves, I may be able to return to UIHC's Virology Clinic.

Dena Dillon, Pharm. D., Virology Clinic Pharmacist

## New Student Research Assistant

My name is Molly Holst and I joined the UIHC Virology Program in late December, 2008. You may find me working on various projects in Rina's office or following Tricia around the Clinic on Wednesdays. I am in my third year at the University of Iowa and my studies are focused in the areas of Communication Sciences and Disorders (formerly known as Speech

Pathology and Audiology). I enjoy the outdoors, abstract art, Hawkeye football games, and spending time with my family and our Airedale Terrier, Jack. I am looking forward to meeting with you all!

Please feel free to contact me anytime at molly-holst@uiowa.edu.



## Save the date: June 7, 2009

### Annual ICARE Pancake Breakfast

Volunteers and staff will be serving breakfast from 8am to 1pm in the Pedestrian Mall in downtown Iowa City. Tickets will be available for \$8 before the event and \$10 the day of the event, children 7 and under eat free with purchase of an

adult ticket. If you have any questions, please call Wendy Hogan at (319)338-2135 and if you would like to volunteer, please call Ericka Pullen at (319)338-2135.

## Studies You Can Participate In

Opportunities exist to participate in available studies!!! Individuals with HIV/AIDS can join one of two studies if they meet specific guidelines. Each study is different. Compensation provided.

The first study involves looking at the effectiveness of a new investigational medication for the treatment of HIV associated diarrhea. Participants must

have a history of at least 1 month of diarrhea.

The second study is an observational study and looks at the safety of a new FDA approved medication, Maraviroc (Selzentry) for the treatment experienced adults given in conjunction with a patient's OBT regimen. The patient will get HIV-1 tropism assay as a screening test. This follow-up

study will take about 5 years.

Future possibility: Vicriviroc study for subjects who have not yet received HIV treatment (Vicriviroc blocks entry of HIV into cell).

Keep checking upcoming newsletters for future studies/trials. Interested individuals should contact Rina at (319)384-9017.

### Changing Medicine, Changing Lives!

The University of Iowa Virology Program uses a multi-disciplinary approach to provide comprehensive care including: social services and community referrals, financial programs such as the Ryan White funds, psychiatry services, nutrition consultation, referrals to experienced professionals in all medical specialties, medication, clinical trials, and specialized medical care. The staff understands confidentiality concerns. If you have any questions, concerns, or if you have tested positive and want to schedule your first appointment, please call the Virology Clinic at (319)356-8133.

#### The University of Iowa Virology Program

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