

# **MedsCheck Program**

## **- adult or child Pre-Op Clinic visit -**

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### **What is a MedsCheck?**

The MedsCheck program is a free 20 to 30 minute appointment with your community pharmacist. Your pharmacist will review all medications. The pharmacist wants to make sure that you understand the medications and that they are taken correctly. A MedsCheck is more detailed than a printed list of the medications you buy from your pharmacy.

### **Who can have a MedsCheck?**

All residents of Ontario who take 3 or more prescription medications for a chronic condition can have a MedsCheck done. Also anyone scheduled for a hospital admission can have a MedsCheck. Residents of Ontario can have only one MedsCheck a year. Sometimes a MedsCheck is done more often under certain conditions such as major medication changes or discharge from hospital.

For children we recommend having a MedsCheck before a pre-op visit:

- if your child is taking 3 or more medications on a regular basis, or
- taking at least 1 narcotic and/or controlled substance medication on a regular basis.

### **How do I prepare for a MedsCheck appointment?**

You can prepare for your MedsCheck appointment by bringing these items when you meet with your community pharmacist:

- ✓ Ontario health card
- ✓ Any current medication containers, including those from other pharmacies and/or a list of all medications
- ✓ Any non-prescription medications, vitamins and/or herbal products currently taking

## All medications include:

- prescriptions
- ear drops
- eye drops
- inhalers (puffers)
- nasal sprays
- creams & ointments
- patches
- non-prescriptions (medications that you buy over-the-counter)
- vitamins
- herbal products
- traditional medicines
- naturopathic and homeopathic treatments
- sample medications that your doctor may have given you

## After your MedsCheck appointment, your community pharmacist will give you a form that you need to bring to your pre-op visit.

The MedsCheck form provides detailed information about all the medications you or your child take. This form will help the nurses, doctors and pharmacists in the Pre-Op Clinic make decisions about the medications before and after surgery.

## Before your Pre-Op Clinic visit:

- Call your community pharmacy to make a MedsCheck appointment before the scheduled pre-op visit.
- If you were not able to get a MedsCheck appointment with your community pharmacist, you can call a Hamilton Health Sciences retail pharmacy to schedule an appointment:
  - Hamilton General Hospital: 905-577-8259
  - Juravinski Cancer Centre: 905-575-6320
  - McMaster University Medical Centre: 905-521-5019

## What do I bring to the pre-op visit?

- ✓ Ontario health card.
- ✓ The MedsCheck form that your community pharmacist completed. The staff in the Pre-op Clinic will ask for it when you register.
- ✓ All prescription and non-prescription medications that are taken at home in their original containers or packages.