

### **Interlake-Eastern RHA takes an active role in Canadian Patient Safety Week**

In recognition of Canadian Patient Safety Week, October 27-31, Interlake-Eastern Regional Health Authority (RHA) is partnering with community pharmacies to promote medication safety. Participating pharmacies will be handing out the Manitoba Institute for Patient Safety's free *It's Safe to Ask* medication wallet cards to the public in support of this year's theme, "Ask. Listen. Talk."

According to Heather Campbell, quality and patient safety coordinator with Interlake-Eastern RHA, carrying an up to date medication card or list can be of significant value in case of an emergency.

"Keeping an up to date medication card in your wallet or purse can increase your safety in an emergency and when engaging with health care providers. Information on the medication card will assist emergency medical services, nurses, physicians, pharmacists, and specialists in understanding your current medication needs and health care requirements." Campbell said.

Medication cards can be picked up at participating pharmacies (listed below) or downloaded from the Manitoba Institute for Patient Safety (MIPS) website at [www.mips.ca](http://www.mips.ca), click on "Resources & Tips", then "MIPS Tips", then "Medication Card". If assistance is required to fill out the medication wallet card please ask your pharmacist, health care provider, friend or family member for help.

The *It's Safe to Ask* medication card is part of the Emergency Response Information Kit (E.R.I.K.). Kits are available from local Seniors Resource Services. To receive a free E.R.I.K. or for more information residents are asked to contact the Services to Seniors Specialist in their area at 204-886-4064 (West Side) or 204-268-6738 (East Side).

MIPS is a strong advocate for patient safety awareness and education. They have many valuable resources for health care providers and the general public, including how to engage with your health care provider and advocate for yourself or a loved one. For more information visit [www.mips.ca](http://www.mips.ca) and click on "Resources & Tips", then "Patients & Families", and then "Advocating for yourself and others".

Created by the Canadian Patient Safety Institute (CPSI) in 2005 to "inspire extraordinary improvement in patient safety and quality," Canadian Patient Safety Week encourages health care providers, patients and citizens to become more engaged in their own health care. For more information about CPSI please visit [www.patientsafetyinstitute.ca](http://www.patientsafetyinstitute.ca). Additional patient safety information is also available online at [www.ierha.ca](http://www.ierha.ca), click on "About us", then "Your safety".

**Participating Pharmacies:**

Arborg Pharmacy, 273 Main Street  
Ashern Pharmacy, 43 Main Street  
Pharmasave, Beausejour 651 Park Avenue  
Guardian Pharmacy, Beausejour 635 Park Avenue  
Eriksdale Pharmacy, 12 Railway Avenue  
Fort Alexander Pharmacy, Fort Alexander Health Centre  
Pharmasave, Gimli , 45 Centre Street  
Taylor Pharmacy, Gimli, 50 Centre Street  
Grand Medicine Pharmacy, Hodgson, Lot 39 Hwy 325  
Ingham Pharmacy, Lac du Bonnet, 29 Park Avenue  
Lundar Pharmacy, 18 Main Street  
Pharmasave, Oakbank, 1-559 Main Street  
Pinawa Pharmacy, 40 Burrows Road  
Pine Pharmacy, Pine Falls, 22 Pine Street  
Riverton Pharmacy, 78 Main Street  
Safeway Pharmacy, Selkirk, 318 Manitoba Avenue  
DRUGStore Pharmacy, Extra Foods, Selkirk, 366 Main Street  
Parker's Super Thrifty Pharmacy, 362 Eveline Street  
Shopper's Drug Mart, Selkirk, 230 Main Street  
Walmart Pharmacy, Selkirk, 1016 Manitoba Avenue  
Interlake Pharmacy, Stonewall, 1-330 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue South  
Stonewall Pharmacy, 17-333 Main Street, Westside Plaza  
Rockwood Pharmacy, Stonewall, 5-405 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue South  
Teulon Pharmacy, 44 Main Street  
Whitemouth Pharmacy, A-159 Railway Avenue

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