

Established in 1936 as an independent community pharmacy, BLACKBURN'S has grown into a leading provider of home healthcare products, encompassing all levels of medical equipment. Accredited through The Joint Commission since 1995, BLACKBURN'S services Western Pennsylvania, Northern West Virginia, Eastern Ohio and Western New York.

Corporate Headquarters

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pharmacy services • medical supplies • dme/rehab
bariatric dme/support surfaces • respiratory

301 Corbet Street
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Calendar of Events

September 24 & 25, 2009

36th Annual Western Region PSRC Seminar in Respiratory Care and Sleep Medicine
Sponsored by Pennsylvania Society for Respiratory Care
Location: FourPoints Sheraton North Pittsburgh, Mars, PA
For more details, visit the PSRC website at <http://www.psrc.net>

October 3, 2009

5th Annual ACMA Western Pennsylvania Chapter Case Management Conference
Sponsored by American Case Management Association
Location: Hilton Garden Inn Pittsburgh/SouthPointe, Cannonsburg, PA
For more details, visit the ACMA website at <http://www.acmaweb.org>

October 15, 2009

A Day to C.A.R.E. Seminar:
Change, Appreciate, Renew and Enrich
Sponsored by Allegheny County Area Agency on Aging
Location: Radisson Hotel, Greentree, PA
For more details, call the Gove Group, Inc. at 412-431-5087 or email to events@gove.org.

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THE FUTURE OF HEALTHCARE IN AMERICA?

The healthcare industry is changing and at a rapid pace. The negative impact of the economy alone with growing demographics of an aging population will force us to find better, more cost-effective ways to administer healthcare in our country. Federal and state budgets are decreasing yet patient expectations and social responsibilities are increasing. A great deal of emotion, opinions and debate still remain but hopefully we can establish a healthcare benefit that is fair and responsible for all citizens today and future generations.

BLACKBURN'S is committed to be an integral part of the healthcare delivery system today and into the future. Regardless of the size, shape or structure of the healthcare system, our organization is committed to:

1. Highest quality of products and services.
2. Finding easier, more cost-effective ways to administer services.
3. Add long-term value to patients we service.
4. Make homecare a viable, cost-effective option to healthcare.

The goal for BLACKBURN'S as in the past and for the future will remain the same. We must provide quality products and services that add value and quality of life to our patients and referral sources. Many things will change but some things must remain.

I hope working collectively we can create and implement a healthcare program that is beneficial for all Americans and fair to all healthcare providers.

Thanks for all your past support and the privilege of letting BLACKBURN'S be your service provider.

Sincerely,

Ronald Rukas President and C.E.O.



Is your facility accredited for Medicare Part B? If not...it may be too late!

Accreditation deadline is September 30, 2009 for suppliers of durable medical equipment, prosthetics, orthotics and supplies, who bill Medicare Part B. Suppliers must obtain accreditation by September 30, 2009 or their Medicare Part B billing privileges will be revoked. These accreditation requirements apply to suppliers of durable medical equipment, medical supplies, home dialysis supplies and equipment, therapeutic shoes, parenteral/enteral nutrition, transfusion medicine, prosthetic devices, and orthotics.

BLACKBURN'S is an accredited provider, compliant with Medicare and with most Managed Care providers. We are equipped to help your facility through a successful third party billing system.

For more details, contact Anne Malfi-Korpela via email anne.malfi@blackburnsmed.com or call (724) 224-9100 ext: 1223.



A UNIQUE ALTERNATIVE TO CRUTCHES

While crutches, walkers and wheelchairs benefit the ambulatory needs of many patients, there are certain people who may experience problems. Crutches can be awkward and unsteady. Wheelchairs are not only heavy but also bulky for people with limited upper body strength or flexibility. In the end, the patient is frustrated and risks additional injuries when using any of the above products.

Now BLACKBURN'S offers an alternative, the Weil Knee Walker by Medline, which was designed exclusively for Medline by Dr. Lowell Weil, Jr. Podiatric Consultant to the Chicago White Sox Baseball Club.

The only three-wheel walker on the market, it is much easier to use for everyone, regardless of shape or size.

Common uses:

- Lower extremity injuries or problems requiring the patient to be off the foot or leg would replace crutches or a walker
- Fracture of foot, ankle or lower leg
- Post-operative immobilization requiring non-weight bearing
- Diabetic foot wounds that require "off-loading" to heal

Weil Knee Walker
By Medline



The three-wheel design allows for unparalleled comfort and turning control. A thicker padded seat offers comfort with an adjustable bench to accommodate heights 4'10" to 6'4". The knee walker has a weight capacity up to 300 pounds and is equipped with locking hand brakes. The standard large basket makes it convenient to carry personal items. Also, it is collapsible for easy transporting in your vehicle.

The Weil Knee Walker is available as a rental or purchase. To schedule a product demonstration or in-service on BLACKBURN'S mobility products, please contact BLACKBURN'S at 800-472-2440 ext: 1226 or via email randy.prunty@blackburnsmed.com.

BLACKBURN'S OFFERS HOME AND VEHICLE ACCESSIBILITY PRODUCTS

BLACKBURN'S has created a new division complementing our home medical equipment that focuses on Accessibility / Safety Products. This new division will offer products and services that improve the quality of daily living for the patient in their home or vehicle.

Product categories include:

- Ramps for the home including portable, threshold and modular units to fit many applications
- Portable ramps for vehicles
- Hitch-mounted scooter or power wheelchair lifts for vehicles
- Bathroom safety aids from walk-in tubs to shower chairs, transfer bench and grab bars
- Personal safety aids such as the Guardian 911 Alert System



Our goal is to offer products that meet your life style needs helping you to live better. To schedule an in-service on BLACKBURN'S line of products, call Joe Novosat, Accessibility / Safety Products Sales and Marketing Representative at 800-472-2440 ext: 1287 or via email at joseph.novosat@blackburnsmed.com.



BLACKBURN'S OFFERS MEDICATION THERAPY SERVICE



The University of Pittsburgh School of Pharmacy is proud to be partnering with BLACKBURN'S Pharmacy to provide advanced training for a Community Pharmacy Resident and establishing a Medication Therapy Management (MTM) service. Medication-related problems are a significant public health issue in the United States. The inappropriate use of medications contribute to more than 1.5 million preventable, medication-related adverse events each year and account for an excess of \$177 billion in morbidity and mortality.¹

What is medication therapy management? Medication therapy management (MTM) service allows the patients to sit down with a pharmacist, one-to-one, to discuss and evaluate their medication-related needs. Patients can make an individual appointment with a pharmacist to review their entire medication regimen to help ensure the patient is getting the most of their medications to improve their health. MTM is separate from the dispensing of a drug product, as it occurs in a patient care room. The pharmacist will identify, prioritize, and resolve medication-related problems with the patient and their caregivers. The pharmacist will work with the patient's physician(s) to ensure the medications are the best and most effective for the patient.

Core services of Medication Therapy Management program

Medication Therapy Review: A systematic process of collecting patient-specific information, assessing medication therapies to identify medication-related problems, developing a prioritized list of medication-related problems and creating a plan to resolve them.

Personal Medication Records: A comprehensive record of the patient's medications (prescriptions and nonprescription medications, herbal products and other dietary supplements).

Medication-Related Action Plan: A patient-centric document containing a list of actions for the patient and their caregiver to use in tracking progress for self-management.

Intervention and/or Referral: Consulting services and pharmacist interventions to address medication-related problems. When necessary, the pharmacist refers the patient to a physician or other healthcare professional.

In July 2009, Shannon McLaughlin, PharmD, joined BLACKBURN'S Pharmacy staff as a Community Pharmacy Resident to work directly with patients to assist them in meeting their medication-related needs. A Community Pharmacy Resident is a licensed pharmacist who is interested in gaining more experience in caring for patients' medication-related needs, working directly with physicians and all health care practitioners, teaching and conducting practice-based research. Dr. McLaughlin will work with area physicians in establishing BLACKBURN'S MTM service.



Dr. Shannon McLaughlin

Dr. McLaughlin is a 2009 graduate of the University of Pittsburgh School of Pharmacy. She has seven years of experience working in community pharmacies. She chose to pursue a residency to learn how to better care for patients individually and as part of a team of practitioners in the community. Dr. McLaughlin is a native of Washington, PA.

Your patient's MTM visit with the pharmacist may be covered by insurance. If you are interested in learning more about fee-based medication therapy management services, please contact BLACKBURN'S Physicians Pharmacy at (724) 224-9100. Our staff will schedule an appointment with Dr. Shannon McLaughlin.

References

1. Ernst FR, Grizzle AJ. Drug-related morbidity and mortality: Updating the cost-of-illness model. J Am Pharm Assoc. 2001; 41:192-9