



## FREE CLINIC OF SOUTHWEST WASHINGTON

### DISPENSARY INFORMATION

Some quick notes about our dispensary

1. Not a Class A pharmacy but a dispensary.
2. Past:
  - a. 20-30 patients per day with prescriptions for patients unable to afford their medicines. 600+ prescriptions per month.
  - b. Stocked about 200+ meds, obtained thru McKesson, donations, including insulins and other sources. It is unknown how many patients filled their prescriptions outside of the dispensary.
  - c. Formal policy and procedures were developed by a pharmacist for consistency of prescription processing. Drug tables and therapeutic interchange were available to look for cheaper alternatives. A limited voucher program existed with Safeway for drugs not available at the dispensary.
  - d. The prescriptions were all hard copies; no electronic medical records (EMR) were done.
  - e. Staffed by 20+ pharmacists and 20+ technicians and pharmacy assistant volunteers (several). The pharmacists and pharmacy technicians were had current licenses.
3. Now:
  - a. Stocked with small supplies of seventeen medications. Procurement mostly through McKesson; occasionally, donated insulins.
    - i. Other meds occasionally stocked: donated insulins, cancelled patient assistance programs meds. We no longer accept other donated meds.
    - ii. Medications available include amlodipine (Norvaxc) , hydrochlorothiazide (Hydrodiuril) , Lisinopril (Prinivil, Zestril), losartan ((Cozaar) , atorvastatin (Lipitor), albuterol inhaler ((Proair) , all varying strengths. Diabetic meds include glipizide (Glucotrol) and metformin (Glucophage) ; insulin products (both formulary and patient assistance) include insulin glulisine (Apidra) , insulin lispro (Humalog), insulin glargine y-fgn (Semglee), dulaglutide (Trulicity), semaglutide (Ozempic) and dapaglifloxin (Farxiga); we do carry some miscellaneous OTCs.
    - iii. Not sure about the dispensary budget; we currently have about \$900 worth of medications.
    - iv. Vaccines are in a refrigerator and are obtained through Washington state. Certified medical personnel do administration of the vaccines.
  - b. Currently only 1 volunteer pharmacist.

- i. The pharmacist is available 3-4 hours every Wednesday and is always available for consultation, assisting with drug inventory and newsletter contribution. The pharmacist has not been actively involved in ambulatory pharmaceutical care yet.
  - 1. The pharmacist is available to administer vaccinations.
- c. We process about 30-40 prescriptions/month, mostly for our diabetic program patients. The EMR does have a record of the type of medicine dispensed from the dispensary or sent out to a pharmacy. It is estimated that about six hundred prescriptions/month are generated; discount programs and GoodRx.com are at various pharmacies are used for most of the prescriptions generated.
- d. Hard copies of the prescriptions for medications filled at the dispensary are maintained; we are working on getting a better EMR access for these.
- e. We have an updated voucher program with Safeway.
- f. Prescriptions processing: Ideally by the pharmacist. In the pharmacist absence, the Free Clinic staff does the process.
  - i. PAs, ARNPs and medical assistants (with MD signatures verifying the prescriptions and medications when necessary). MDs also process prescriptions occasionally.
- 4. Future projects: incorporate the possible ambulatory role for the pharmacist, learn the Athena EMR and use of pharmacy residents as volunteer pharmacists; continue to assist in formulary management.

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