MEDIA RELEASE

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New initiative encourages patients to bring their medications to hospital

Staff at Goondiwindi Hospital have teamed up with other health providers in the community to encourage patients to bring their existing medications to hospital.

The initiative is aimed at making it easier for patients to continue their medication routine, without relying on the hospital’s pharmacy. It will also save the hospital valuable funds, which can then be redirected into improvements in patient care.

Goondiwindi Hospital director of nursing and facility manager Lorraine McMurtrie said the initiative would initially focus on asthma medications.

“We have been working closely with Queensland Ambulance Service representatives who have specific green bags that are used for people, who are being taken to hospital, to safely transport their medications,” Ms McMurtrie said.

“At the moment we are making a point of encouraging patients to bring their asthma medication, seretide, and asthma devices, such as a spacer, to hospital.”

Ms McMurtrie said this was the first step towards encouraging all patients, including those who present to emergency, to bring their medications with them to hospital as well as list detailing their medications.

“Alongside the local QAS paramedics, we are working with local pharmacists, medical centre staff and GPs to better educate patients about this initiative,” she said.

“We would also like to see patients present with a list detailing their current medications and doses.”

Ends

Caption: Advanced Care Paramedics Kellie McCosker and Jed Owen, along with the Goondiwindi Hospital, are encouraging patients to bring their medication with them to hospital.

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