

Fall 2016 Issue



*“When you are a nurse you know that every day you will touch a life ...and a life will touch yours.”*

We hope you have enjoyed the exceptionally warm weather this summer and are ready for some relief with cooler temperatures coming soon. This issue of the Southwestern Pennsylvania Health Care Quality Unit **HCQU CARES: Nursing Edition** has some hot news to report from the FDA that may affect the individuals in your care. We anticipate this information will help you be better informed in providing excellent nursing care to people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

**Latest News**  
from the



**U.S. FOOD & DRUG**  
ADMINISTRATION

## Nasal Flu Vaccine NOT Recommended for 2016/2017 Season

The CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) voted that the intranasal influenza vaccine not be used during the 2016/2017 flu season. This nasal spray vaccine is the live attenuated influenza vaccine (LAIV). The vote was based on data from 2013-2016 that showed poor or lowered effectiveness of the vaccine. The annual flu vaccination, with either the inactivated influenza vaccine (IIV) or recombinant influenza vaccine (RIV), is still recommended by the ACIP for everyone 6 months and older. The CDC's director must review and approve this recommendation before it becomes CDC policy. You can learn more by visiting, <http://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2016/s0622-laiv-flu.html>.

## Olanzapine Warning-Life Threatening Reaction

The FDA is adding new warning labels to all products containing the antipsychotic olanzapine to inform patients and providers about the risk of causing a rare but life threatening skin reaction. This condition is known as Drug Reaction with Eosinophilia and Systemic Symptoms (DRESS). Symptoms include a rash, swollen lymph nodes, and swollen face. Eosinophilia occurs causing inflammation and swelling which may result in injury to vital organs such as the liver, kidneys, lungs, pancreas, or the heart. The mortality rate from DRESS is up to 10%. Olanzapine products include Zyprexa, Zyprexa Zydis, Zyprexa Relprevv, and Symbyax, and also as generics. Educate caregivers to observe for symptoms of DRESS and to seek medical care immediately if DRESS is suspected. Learn more at <http://www.fda.gov/Safety/MedWatch/SafetyInformation/SafetyAlertsforHumanMedicalProducts/ucm500123.htm>.

## Aripiprazole Warning-Impulse Control Reports

Compulsive and uncontrollable urges to gamble, shop, binge eat, and engage in sexual activity with the use of the antipsychotic drug aripiprazole have been reported to the FDA. Aripiprazole products include Abilify, Abilify Maintena, Aristada, and generics. When the medication was discontinued or the dose was reduced the uncontrollable urges were reported to have stopped. The reports of impulse-control are rare, but if not recognized may result in harm to the patient and others. Encourage caregivers to closely monitor individuals for new or worsening uncontrollable urges while being treated with this medication. More information is available at <http://www.fda.gov/Drugs/DrugSafety/ucm498662.htm>.

# The Developmental Disabilities Health Care E-ToolKit

Adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) deserve compassionate, quality medical care; however, they often face disparities in healthcare due to communication concerns and complex medical conditions. Sometimes the health care provider lacks knowledge on how to best care for people with I/DD. The Developmental Disabilities Health Care E-Toolkit was developed to assist health care providers in accessing best practice tools to readily serve people with intellectual disabilities.

The Health Care E-Toolkit is available at <http://vkc.mc.vanderbilt.edu/etoolkit>.

Information available on the website includes:

**GENERAL ISSUES** - This section focuses on common concerns physicians may encounter in providing care to this population.

- Communicating Effectively
- Informed Consent
- Informed Consent Checklist
- Adaptive Functioning and Different Levels of IDD
- Office Organizational tips
- Today's Visit Form

**PHYSICAL HEALTH ISSUES** - This section was developed to assist physicians to understand particular physical health issues of this population, including Preventive Care Checklists. These forms can be downloaded as electronic files for continued access and documentation.

- Cumulative Patient Profile
- Female Preventive Care Checklist
- Male Preventive Care Checklist

**HEALTH WATCH TABLES** - The Health Watch Tables highlight health concerns that occur more often among people with various types of developmental and related disabilities. The tables include:

- Autism
- Down Syndrome
- Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD)
- Fragile X Syndrome
- Prader-Willi Syndrome
- Williams Syndrome
- 22q11.2 Deletion Syndrome

**BEHAVIORAL AND MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES** - This section offers guidance in supporting a person with behaviors that may be challenging, the possible medical issues that might be triggering the behaviors, and steps to consider when prescribing psychotropic medications.

- Initial Management of Behavioral Crises in Primary Care
- Risk Assessment Tool
- Behavioral Problems and Emotional Concerns- Primary Care Checklist
- Behavioral Problems and Emotional Concerns- Caregiver Checklist
- Psychiatric Symptoms and Behaviors Checklist
- ABC (Antecedent-Behavior-Consequence) Chart
- Crisis Prevention and Management Planning
- Crisis Prevention and Management Form
- Psychotropic Medication Issues
- Psychotropic Medication Checklist

Assisting physicians in providing quality health care to people with intellectual disabilities is an honor for nurses working in this special field of nursing. Be an advocate and consider forwarding this website to physicians. Better yet, download the forms of interest, such as the male and female checklists or the health watch tables for a specific genetic syndrome and provide them to the physician at the next appointment. Supply them to the physician at the next appointment and explain that the forms can be downloaded electronically for continued documentation at future appointments.

## APS Healthcare Rebranded as KEPRO

In May 2015, APS Healthcare, Inc. was acquired by KEPRO, a leading quality improvement and care management organization. To conclude this acquisition, the APS Healthcare name was permanently retired, effective August 1, 2016, and all APS Healthcare programs were rebranded as KEPRO.

There will be no interruption to Health Care Quality Unit (HCQU) services as a result of this name change. The KEPRO HCQU will continue to offer training, capacity building, and technical assistance services in the same manner within Allegheny, Bedford/Somerset, Cambria, Fayette, Greene, Washington, and Westmoreland Counties. There will be no changes to the nurse assigned to your agency. The HCQU's address and all telephone/fax numbers will remain the same, as well.

Items that changed as of August 1, 2016 include:

- HCQU name: KEPRO HCQU
- HCQU website address: [hcqu.kepro.com](http://hcqu.kepro.com)

We hope this e-newsletter provides you with useful information as an advocate for people with I/DD. If you have any questions related to physical and/or behavioral health care and individuals with I/DD, please contact the KEPRO HCQU at 1-888-321-5861. We look forward to hearing from you!

Sincerely,  
The KEPRO/Southwestern PA Health Care Quality Unit Team

# Stay Tuned for a New Resource!

The Southwestern Pennsylvania Health Care Quality Unit (HCQU) will be adding a new resource to our website in the coming months! We've partnered with Staywell- Krames to offer our clients, customers and members access to more than 6,000 HealthSheets and Medication References.

With access to more than 4,000 topics relating to health and medication, Krames Online provides you with the ability to find answers to most questions, both big and small. Simply click on the search function to begin.

The new resource will be available on our website at <https://hcqu.kepro.com/Home.aspx>, under 'Other Resources' in the near future!

## Feeling Social? Connect with KEPRO!



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