August 2018

Teamworks, January 2000

Aurora Health Care

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Improved health begins with knowing what to change

Aurora’s Total Health Program will begin offering free health risk appraisals (HRA) to Aurora employees in the Metro Region. The HRA will include a fasting cholesterol (lipid panel), blood pressure screening and body composition. After you complete the HRA you will receive a personalized result packet that identifies your risk factors and provides you with helpful suggestions to start you down the road toward total health. In order for you to make changes in your current lifestyle, you need to know your risk factors and understand how to reduce them.

The packet is confidential and will be mailed directly to your home.

This service will be available to all Aurora Health Care Metro employees and begins this month with employees at West Allis Memorial Hospital. WAMH employees can expect to see an information booth in the cafeteria on Jan. 19 and 20. Total Health will have staff on hand to hand out health risk appraisals and answer questions. The screening dates for WAMH will be Feb. 1, 2, 3, 8, 9 and 10 from 6 a.m. to noon. A 12-hour fast is required for the cholesterol screening. Screening will take approximately 15 minutes, and the HRA form needs to be completed before your screening.

Health Risk Appraisal forms and sign-up sheets for appointments will be available outside of Employee Health at WAMH.

Contact Total Health at (414) 454-6771 for more information.

Holiday food drive is successful

The Aurora Health Care Metro Region voluntary employee holiday food and gift drive ended on Dec. 16 with the delivery of more than 20,000 pounds of food, clothing and gifts to the St. Luke’s Madison Street Outreach Clinic, located at 9th and Madison Streets. In addition, more than 200 boxes of food, clothing, toys, gifts and gift certificates were donated to ten parishes served by Aurora parish nurses to help with their food pantries. A total of $4,624.50 in cash and check donations was received and deposited for use in the Second Harvest Food Bank. This cash donation will provide more than 30,000 pounds of food for hungry families!

In addition to the above, approximately 40 individual families were “adopted” and received many gifts, food, clothing and food certificates from employees, physicians and friends in individual departments and offices throughout the Metro Region and private physician offices.

At Sinai Samaritan Medical Center, Kathy Otto and Laura Love coordinated the employee donations to the parish food pantries and Madison Street Clinic.

Patty Cvikota at West Allis Memorial Hospital coordinated the employee “Gift Giving Tree,” which provided a record number of gifts for children in the West Allis community and the employee donations to the Madison Street clinic and the parish food pantries.

Doreen Wheaton and Lisa Urban were the Holiday Food Drive co-chairpersons.

Thank you to everyone who participated in this very important Aurora project!
Sinai Samaritan has Milwaukee County’s first baby of 2000

The first babies born at Aurora’s Metro Region hospitals on New Year’s Day received 2,000 diapers and a souvenir picture frame as gifts from Aurora Health Care.

At Sinai Samaritan Medical Center, Khalill Vashon Williams was born at 12:06 a.m. Measuring 19 inches and weighing six pounds, he was Milwaukee County’s first baby of the new year. His mother is Lawanda Williams of Milwaukee. Khalill and his mother appeared on local television and were pictured in the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel.

At St. Luke’s Medical Center, Erica Berumen was born at 2:02 a.m. She weighed eight pounds, two ounces and was 21 inches long. Her parents are Bernabe and Leticia Berumen of Oak Creek.

At Hartford Memorial Hospital, Philip Antolak was born at 9:54 a.m. He weighed six pounds, 15 ounces and was 20 1/2 inches long. His parents are Peter and Anna Antolak of Hartford.

At West Allis Memorial Hospital, Olivia Krumrai was born 10:22 p.m. She weighed seven pounds, six ounces and was 19 inches long. Her parents are Andrew Krumrai and Rebecca Bretza-Krumrai of Muskego.

Through the Seasons of a Woman’s Life

The Harry and Rose Samson Family Jewish Community Center and Sinai Samaritan Medical Center, Aurora Health Care, have scheduled speakers for the seventh annual four-part women’s series “Through the Seasons of a Woman’s Life.”


Each program will be held from 7:30 to 9 p.m. at the Jewish Community Center, 6255 N. Santa Monica Blvd., Fox Point. Advance tickets for the four-part series are $40; individual program advance tickets range from $8 to $15. Cost at the door is $10 or $20 each. To order tickets in advance, call Susan Roth, (414) 967-8216.

Madison Street Outreach Clinic send medical supplies to Cuba

When State Senator Gary George accompanied the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra to Cuba last month, he carried medical supplies intended for a children’s hospital in Cuba.

“It is traditional for visitors to bring badly needed medical supplies when they visit Cuba,” Sen. George said. The supplies were donated by St. Luke’s Madison Street Outreach Clinic and a non-Aurora Milwaukee hospital.

Sen. George said he had been assured by the Cuban Interest Section in Washington, D.C., that the medical supplies were badly needed and would be used in the medical care of children.

“Sick children know no politics,” Sen. George said. “It is gratifying to be able to help provide supplies for children in need.”

The MSO performed two concerts in Cuba last month.

Village Adult Services

Contribute to Village Adult Services when you shop at Pick ‘n Save. Designate the Village Adult’s account number — 897300 — when you apply for or change your Pick ‘n Save Advantage Card. A donation will go to Village Adult each time you use your card.

Pick ‘n Save Village Adult Services 897300

Mediterranean Cooking Classes

Learn heart-healthy, cholesterol-free recipes from Rihib Aris, owner and chef at au Bon Appetit. The class meets from 5 to 6:30 p.m. Mondays beginning Feb. 21 at the Karen Yontz Center at St. Luke’s Medical Center. Cost is $25 per person, per class. Call the Karen Yontz Women’s Cardiac Awareness Center at (414) 649-5767 to register. Future classes meet March 20, April 24, May 22, Sept. 18, Oct. 23 and Nov. 20.
Golden Sneaker nominations

The following employees were nominated for the December Golden Sneaker Award: Patrice Jefferson, Food Management; Karen Reske, Rehab; Suzanne Kessler, Rehab; Hugh Hagaman, Cath Lab; Desorlee Julien, Housekeeping; Constance Bowie, Housekeeping; Jose Rojas, Housekeeping; Sharon Wisniewski, Hospitality Services; Karen Kopacek, Pharmacy; James Jones, Materials Transport; Jamie Kubenik-Alvarez, 10 LM; Amy Flock, Rehab Clinic; Marlo Tiskewicz, Rehab Clinic; Peggy Wipplinger, Nursing Education/Urban Affairs; Steve Traxel, Maintenance; Keith Krause, HVAC; Greg Lang, HVAC; John Miller, Boiler Room; Chris Horvath, Centralized Scheduling; Jane Rogan, Pharmacy; LuAnn Steinke, Test Center; Sue Grishop, 11 LM; Kari Hartman, Patient Placement; MaryLynn Donnelly, Centralized Scheduling; Rachel Lamers, 10 LM; Dawnagan, 4 CD; Char Long, 4 EF.

Patrice Jefferson, Food Management, was selected at random as the Golden Sneaker recipient for the month of December. Her nomination read: “As busy as the cafeteria gets every day for each mealtime, I’ve never seen her without a smile on her face and happy to help with customers. She’s fabulous!”

1999 Golden Sneaker recipient

Rose Garcia, Rehab Aide, was selected as the Golden Sneaker recipient of the Year for 1999. Her nomination read: Rose Garcia was instrumental in completing discharge teaching with a Spanish-only speaking patient. We called her to translate instructions and ensure patient understanding. During the course of her conversation with the patient, she learned that they were in need of a car seat. Rose called her daughter-in-law, who was able to provide our patient with the much needed seat.

Rose’s generosity didn’t stop there. Several days after the patient was discharged, she went to the patient’s home and provided her with infant clothing and supplies. Rose’s kindness and generosity exemplify “service-oriented care.” She truly went above and beyond.

Tree of Light Committee says thanks

The 1999 Tree of Light Committee would like to express its gratitude to all of the St. Luke’s employees, families and friends who participated in this annual event. The purchase of the tree pins, the donated baked goods and the other donations received all made this year’s event very successful. Your generosity will allow us to continue to financially support our Tree of Light Reading and Resources Room in the Vince Lombardi Cancer Clinic. Again, thank you to all.

2000 UPAF Campaign nearing

Calling all talented employees: We’re ‘All Stars’ and we need you! Dust off your dancing shoes and unearth that musical instrument that’s been packed away in the back closet. The United Performing Arts Fund (UPAF) campaign is nearing, and employees have an opportunity to get in on the action again. A select group of musical entertainers and performers (neatly disguised as St. Luke’s Medical Center employees) are once again being recruited to create an in-house video to generate interest in the upcoming UPAF campaign. After the video is completed, it will be shown to St. Luke’s employees and managers, in place of the standard UPAF informational video.

Audrey Blumenfeld, coordinator of the UPAF campaign at St. Luke’s Medical Center, said, “I know that we have many creative and talented employees at St. Luke’s Medical Center, so we want to create our own video showcasing the talent we have right here at St. Luke’s. We are asking employees to volunteer only a small amount of their time. Aurora Creative Services will videotape their performance so they will only have to perform once. The theme of this year’s UPAF campaign is ‘We’re All Stars,’ and that’s what we would like to demonstrate.”

If employees are interested in performing in the video, or would like more information, they may call Audrey Blumenfeld at (414) 649-7403 before Friday, Jan. 29.

Meditation Moments offered

The Pastoral Care Department of St. Luke’s offers a 15 minute devotional opportunity at 11 a.m. on Wednesdays in the Chapel at St. Luke’s Medical Center. This weekly ecumenical meditation and prayer service is
for all staff members and patients. A meditation is read; there is time for reflection; and then the service is closed with prayer. If you would like more information about this service, please contact Rev. Ray Korry, Metro Region director of pastoral care, at (414) 649-7523.

Welcome new employees

Annala, Kate, RN, OR
Bruhn, Katheryn, RN, MRICU
Burckhardt, Alli, NA, CVICU
Curry, Sandy, RN, 4CD
Giles, Cari, NA, 8GHJK
Golla, Apryl, Rec. Access Clerk
Harold, David, Sr. Software Systems Eng.
Jimenez, Jenny, Dietary Aide
Kapel, Lucyna, NA, 2EF
Landowski, Nancy, Followup Specialist
Laska, Aislinn, NA, 4EF
MacLeod, Rhonda, Rad Tech
McCarthy, Patrick, Desktop Net. Eng.
McClain, Rose, Rec. Access Clerk
Meusy, Laura, Cardiography Tech
Muldowney, Katie, NA, 4EF
Nelson, Lori, NA, 5LM
Organ, Caroline, NA, 4EF
Rogers, Deborah, Dietary Aide
Rogers, Lisa Jo, Dietary Aide
Schneider, Jenny, Dietary Aide
Serrano, Roberto, Env Asst.
Shaw, Barbara, Purchasing Assistant
Smith, Sonja, Patient Service Rep
Wilmot, Sherie, Cook
Wojnicz, Kathy, Phlebotomist
Wolf, Sylvia, Desktop Sup Spec
Barisas, Kelly, Int, RN, 5LM
Gerber, Melissa, Int, HUC, ER
Grambow, Jeffrey, Int, NA, SNICU
Pieper, Lindsey, Int, RN, 5LM
Piojda, Elizabeth, Int, NA, CICU
Bowie, Charles, Security Officer
Brightman, Cindy, Project Leader
Calderon, Tanya, Phlebotomist
Dirksmeyer, Linda, Dir. Org Dev., Aurora Serv
Edwards, Shelly, Laundry Attendant
Emerson, Zena, Dietary Assistant
Garthee-Hies, Dawn, OR Assistant
Gollner, Paul, Supervisor Loss Prevention
Gruenewald, Janine, Employee Health Specialist
Itzenhuiser, Jill, Instrument Tech
Johnson, Tntaia, Phlebotomist
Kaniasty, Nancy, Coordinator-Training
Klosiewski, Kathy, Accounting Clerk
Korenak, Bobbi, Phlebotomist
Lee, Tangela, Phlebotomist
Luedtke, Wendy, Secretary, Business & Marketing
Lund, Sydney-Sue, RN, Teleservices
Mark, Melissa, Pt. Access Specialist
McGonigal, Peg, Chaplain, CPE
Moore, Sheila, Account Specialist
Morgan, Bernadette, NA, 6KLM
Pescheck, Amy, Phlebotomist
Price, Ken, Reg. Director Cardiac Services
Ramirez, Iliana, Phlebotomist
Robinson-Page, Rashida, Phlebotomist
Robinson, Roslyn, Phlebotomist
Stevens, Lachelle, Dietary Aide
Trim, Patrick, Dir. Cap Equip Serv
Wanserski, Ginger, Medical Records Coder
Ross, Jacalyn, Secretary, Hyperbaric Medicine
Dustrude, Joanne, Manager, Surgery
Pantich, Amber, HUC, Float Pool
Rozwadowski, Karen, Administrative Assistant
Boche, Ben, NA, PACU
Bontempo, Lisa, NA Intern
Holtz, Matt, Dietary Aide
Pallo, Raquel, Film Management
Peters, Cathy, Child Life Specialist
Trinitapoli, Gianna, Film Management
Agua, Jessica, Collector, Patient Accounts
Beckner, Angie, Dietary Aide
Bhrendt, Margie, Pharmacy Tech
Brewer, Renee, RN, ICU
Button, Mary Ann, LPN, 2D
DeLaPena, Charles, Med Tech
Drover, Becky, Pharmacy Tech
Ferri, Lydia, Administrative Assistant
Golla, Katie, NA, 11LM
Gonzalez, Diane, Environmental Assistant, Environmental Services
Greenth, Nicole, Film Management
Harrison, David, Security Officer
Howard, Linda, Environmental Assistant, Environmental Services
Junker, Corinne, HUC, ER
Marx, Sherie, Dietary Aide
McClary, Chris, RN, Op. Center
Mikoliczak, Joseph, Binder, Print Shop
O'Neil, Dennis, Pharm Tech II
Paletti, Mary, Medical Assistant, Family Practice
Royster, Yvette, Environmental Assistant
Rozga, Cheryl, Followup Specialist
Seibert, Nikki, Reimbursement Assistant
Sykes, Linda, NA, 9LM
Torres, Kathy, Environmental Assistant
Wlkowiaiak, Jennifer, Market Analyst
Winche, Shana, RN, 4KLM
Molling, Denise, Rehab Aide
Peterson, Dawn, Special Project Rep
Wojnowski, Brian, Buyer, Purchasing
Doyle, Sandy, Followup Specialist
Gospodarek, Kris, Lab Info Sys. Spec
Greblick, Douglas, Project Leader
Gresser, Kristi, RT Assistant
Klimek, Michelle, RN, Same Day Surg
Poetter, Katherine, RN, DTC
Reynolds, Juliet, RN, Float Pool
Zuba, Tonnille, Scheduler, Pain Center

Send us your news

We recognize the accomplishments of employees in this newsletter. Please share news about graduations, honors, certifications earned and presentations given in the community. Send information to Kathy Muszynski by phone (920) 803-9595, fax (920) 803-9596, or preferably by email (muszynr@execpc.com). The deadline for the next insert is Friday, Jan. 28. Please include the name and phone number of a contact person.
Many of the standards in the Care of the Patient, Patient Assessment, and Patient Education chapters focus on the provision and documentation of appropriate nutrition care. Like all patient care, nutrition care is an interdisciplinary process. It involves the physician, registered dietitian (RD), dietetic technician (DT), nurse, pharmacist, and other disciplines.

Following are some of the highlights related to nutrition care of the patient:

Nutrition screening is completed by Nursing within 24 hours of admission to determine the patient's need for a comprehensive nutrition assessment.

Referrals are made to Nutrition Services (registered dietitians or diet techs) throughout the continuum of care using the triggers for Interdisciplinary Referrals (part of the Metro Patient Assessment Policy). Referrals are documented in the medical record with date and signature of referrer (e.g., collaborative data base, OFT documentation form, etc.).

Many patients are automatically assessed for nutrition status based on RD triggers.

Nutrition Services RD's or DT's document results of nutrition assessments, reassessments, and enteral or parenteral consults in the Progress Notes.

Monitoring patients' response to nutrition care is a collaborative process which may include documentation of any of the following: appetite, anthropometrics, calorie counts, patient care rounds, communication among disciplines, and RD and DT monitoring for effectiveness of nutrition support.

Nutrition education is documented on the Patient Teaching Record.

Each patient care unit must have access to the diet manual – The Manual of Clinical Dietetics has been approved for use by the Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee and is in the following locations:

SSMC – 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th floors, Medical Library, Nutrition Services Office, and Food Management Office

WAMH – 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, and 7th floors, Medical Library, Nutrition Services Office, and Food Management Office

HMH – MS3, ICU, Birthing Center (BDC), Vent Unit, Ambulatory Surgery, Nutrition Services Office (IP/OP), and Food Management Office

Food/drug interactions that are of immediate clinical significance are identified. The MD or Pharmacist writes the diet order, the RD or DT instructs the patient and Food Management restricts the appropriate foods.

For other food drug interactions, the Pharmacist provides Medication Administration Record (MAR) information and the timing of administration is adjusted. Nursing performs medication teaching.

Pharmacists evaluate the potential for interactions with herbals. Because these products lack standardization of content, potency, and labeling, herbals are given only with MD order and are supplied by the patient.

The Food Management Department provides food that is prepared and distributed in a safe, accurate, timely, and acceptable manner. Food preparation is accomplished using the Hazard Analysis Critical Control Points (HACCP) process to assure food safety.

A Metro work group is evaluating the safety of enteral tube feedings using the HACCP process.

Submitted by
Pat Bichanich, Regional Manager of Nutrition Services

Member of the JCAHO Care of the Patient Team and the JCAHO Patient Assessment Team
Some new resources are available from the Aurora Libraries Intranet Site (ALIS) in 2000. From OVID Technologies, we have about 60 journals available in full text online. Also from OVID are new textbooks including Goroll's Primary Care Medicine, Kelley's Textbook of Internal Medicine, The Washington Manual of Medical Therapeutics, Wallach's Interpretation of Diagnostic Tests, the pocket version of Drug Facts and Comparisons, The Lippincott Manual of Nursing Practice, and Carpenito's Nursing Care Plans and Documentation.

We have also added four concurrent users for MDConsult, which has 35 medical textbooks, over 600 practice guidelines, 2,600 customizable patient education handouts, and medical news updates.

We will not be renewing our license for the STAT-REF textbooks because of the new resources from OVID and MDConsult.

Please call your librarian or Cindy Larson, 649-7371, for directions on office or home access to ALIS.

Educational opportunities from the Aurora Libraries

To learn more about the Aurora Libraries Intranet Site (ALIS), call your Aurora librarian or (414) 649-7357 to request any of the following options.

Phone Tour of ALIS
You and a librarian are both connected to the Aurora Intranet and on the phone for a 15- to 20-minute tour of the types of information available to you on ALIS.
Capacity: 1 person
Advantage: No Travel!

In-Library ALIS Demonstration
You come to one of the five Aurora Libraries for a 30-minute demonstration of how to search MEDLINE on ALIS, pointing out other resources as well.
Capacity: 1-3 people
Advantage: It's short and gets you started

ALIS Demonstration Where You Work
A librarian will attend your staff meeting or come to your location for customized demonstrations of ALIS resources (15 minutes to 1 hour).
Capacity: Small group
Advantage: Convenient and tailored to your interests
Requirement: You must have a PC connected to the Aurora Intranet

Tailored ALIS Class
Arrange for a one-, two- or three-hour class for a specific type of health professional or student where librarians tailor search examples to the appropriate subject matter. A general Internet/WWW searching module can be added.
Capacity: 4-8 people
Advantage: There is enough time for teaching and hands-on practice. It's customized!

ALIS Sampler Class
In this two-and-a-half hour class you will learn to search MEDLINE, a consumer health database, medical textbooks online, and the Aurora Libraries Online Book Catalog. There is hands-on practice after each module.
Capacity: 4-8 people
Advantage: Master the basic library information resources by listening and then doing

WWW Search Class
This two-hour class is a basic introduction to World Wide Web searching techniques with online practice time.
Capacity: 4-20 people
Advantage: A teacher explains how to refine those huge retrievals

Tailored WWW Search Class
Request a WWW Search Class for a specific type of health professional. Sources and examples will be tailored to your subject area.
Capacity: 4-20 people
Advantage: You pick the subject and the length of the class

Computer Training Room Locations:
Medical Library, SLMC; Basement Kniesley, SLMC; Forest Home Business Center; Medical Library, SSMC; and South Side Clinic, Sheboygan.
Aurora’s purchasing power helps lower costs

A major goal of Aurora’s Supply Chain Review is to take advantage of our size — specifically, our purchasing power — in our negotiations with supply and equipment vendors. This requires a system-wide effort to shift our focus from facility-based to system-based negotiations when dealing with vendors. The potential savings are significant. Consider these three recent successes:

An initiative facilitated by David Piotter, director of corporate purchasing, centered on reducing costs, standardizing processes and improving service throughout Aurora. A multi-disciplinary team that included representatives from the four regions led the initiative. The team conducted a competitive market analysis reviewing distribution and service proposals from leading pharmacy and medical-surgical vendors. The team helped negotiate two, multi-year agreements resulting in combined savings of more than $14.7 million over the next five years.

The CMA team members included: Allen Bechtel, Facilities and Material Manager, Medical Surgical Clinic; Ken Beck, manager, purchasing; Steve Guenther, purchasing and information systems, Sheboygan Clinic; Tom Newkirk, manager, pharmacy logistics; David Piotter, director of purchasing; Jack Rademacher, Aurora Pharmacies; Herb Schick, pharmacy retail operations; Cathy Sherwin, manager, purchasing; Dennis Smasal, director, distribution management; Dan Stabler, materials management, Sheboygan Memorial Medical Center/Valley View Medical Center; Jeannette Wield, system logistics coordinator; Greg Weber, director, pharmacy operations; Tom Woller, Aurora Pharmacies, Metro Region; Peter Writt, pharmacy, Two Rivers Community Hospital; and Rick Yerondopoulos, St. Luke’s Medical Center.

Our Corporate Purchasing Department recently completed contract negotiations with Baxter International Inc. The contract renews an agreement involving IV sets and pumps. The new Baxter agreement provides savings of $535,000 per year plus additional savings totaling $2.9 million over the five-year agreement extension. In this instance, Ken Beck, manager of purchasing, worked strictly on a Metro Region agreement. However, Ken is pursuing a full system service agreement with Baxter to consolidate numerous equipment and service contracts from individual regions.

Like other hospitals and health systems, Aurora has seen a significant increase in stent use over the past few years, with very little competitive pressure to reduce prices. Premier, the group purchasing organization to which we belong, recently implemented a new coronary stent agreement that significantly reduces pricing with the three leading manufacturers. Cathy Sherwin, manager of purchasing, coordinated with vendors and staff at St. Luke’s Medical Center and Sinai Samaritan Medical Center to gain access to the new pricing, achieving combined annual savings of $595,562. Cathy will be working with individual cardiology departments to take advantage of additional savings opportunities.

West Allis Film Festival proves JCAHO preparation can be fun

The planners of a Joint Commission education event took a creative and unusual route at West Allis Memorial Hospital last month. They presented each of the 11 JCAHO chapters in a movie theme complete with props. Movies were chosen that could be related to the JCAHO chapter names, and activities were developed that fit either the movie itself, or the film festival theme.

The film festival ran for two days, covering all three shifts. The team’s priority was to have an event that would not only be educational, but also fun for the staff to attend. Judging by the comments and evaluations, they were successful in their endeavor. Among employees’ comments were “great job,” “very creative,” excellent presentation,” “please do a re-run,” “imaginative,” “wonderful way to present the info,” “enjoyed this learning experience,” and “clever use of teaching aids.”

Fond du Lac Avenue Medical Center presents holiday awareness event

The Holiday Family Health Festival, an awareness-building and health promotion event for the Fond du Lac Avenue Medical Center, was held last month at Capitol Court. Staff members from Lakeshore Medical Clinic-Capitol Drive, Metro Cardiac Services, and Sinai Samaritan Medical Center's Pulmonary Functions and Sleep Disorders Center provided health screenings.

During the event, the 450 guests learned about the new Fond du Lac Avenue Medical Center that is expected to open this spring. The two-story building will be located on the corner of Fond du Lac Avenue, Congress and 60th Street. This new primary care facility, led by physicians of Lakeshore Medical Clinic and Aurora Medical Group, will assist in the rebuilding of Sinai Samaritan's primary care base on Milwaukee's north side. Some of the services that will be offered include internal medicine, obstetrics and gynecology, pediatrics, rehabilitation, radiology, laboratory medicine, geriatric assessment, podiatry, primary care and an Aurora Pharmacy.