



Press Release
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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A “Thank You” is Just the Prescription for Your Local Pharmacist

January 12 is National Pharmacist Day and Knox urges you to recognize what pharmacists bring to the community.

KNOX, Texas (Jan. 6, 2023) – Where would we be without our pharmacists helping our medical providers keep us healthy by dispensing the prescribed medications? To thank them for their role in our healthcare system, we observe National Pharmacist Day this week.

“Although we’ve set aside January 12 as the official day of recognition, we honor them for their work and expertise every day of the year,” acknowledged Stephen Kuehler, CEO, Knox County Hospital District. “They help make our lives better and sometime more manageable with oversight of our medication.”

Just like a nurse, imaging tech and other medical professionals, pharmacists work hand-in-hand with your healthcare provider. Their role is to dispense prescription medications proscribed by the provider and offer instructions on the safe use of these medications in order to provide maximum benefit, minimal side effects and to control the interactions with other drugs you may be taking or planning to take.

“Our Knox County pharmacist department work with in-patients and out-patients in our two clinics,” Kuehler noted. They also offer local, onsite convenience,” he added. At Knox County, our talented and professional pharmacists are able to fill all prescriptions presented including ones proscribed by out-of-town specialists. “This is important because we recognize that people travel and sometimes medical care is provided away from Knox County,” Kuehler added.

“In observing National Pharmacist Day there is no shortage of our medical providers that stand in line for this tribute,” Kuehler pointed out. Knox County has two pharmacists on staff. David Lee, PharmD, Director of Pharmacy at Knox County Hospital and Lance Sloan, R. Ph, Pharmacist in Charge at Knox County Pharmacy and Supply. “Both have proven to be quite valuable to our community through their work here at Knox County Hospital District,” said Kuehler.

In earlier times, pharmacists primarily checked and distributed drugs to doctors for patient prescribed medication. However today, their role has grown. Pharmacists advise patients and health care providers on the selection, dosages, interactions, and side effects of prescriptions as well as dispensing them. In addition, they have advanced to become an intermediary between a prescriber and a patient.

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“There are a few things about pharmacists that many may not realize,” Kuehler said. For example, they work long hours, usually standing the entire time. Along with dispensing pills and providing advice on medications, pharmacists also monitor in-patients for any reactions to medications.” according to Kuehler.

If you are at our clinic on National Pharmacist Day or at any drugstore where medicine is dispensed, please make time to stop by the pharmacy and just say “thank you.” They will be pleased to know that they are recognized for all their work they do and the years of education they go through in order to be of service to their community. The average pharmacist trains for another four years after getting all their prerequisite hours to receive the professional degree they need to do the job.

“Like our healthcare providers and our nurses, pharmacists are every bit a part of our medical professional team here at Knox County Hospital District,” Kuehler concluded. “They deserve our acknowledgement and gratitude for their work and concern for the patients in our community.” Please be sure to make them feel recognized and affirmed, he added.

About Knox County Hospital District

Founded in 1926, Knox County Hospital District provides healthcare for residents of Knox County and surrounding areas. The district offers a wealth of medical services, including 24-hour emergency care, advanced radiology services, a clinical laboratory, home health, physical therapy, long-term care, patient education, and more. For additional information, please call 940-657-3535 or visit www.knoxhospital.org.

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