World Asthma Day at Helderberg Hospital Pharmacy

Aleta Wege

To celebrate World Asthma Day on 3 May 2016, Helderberg Hospital Pharmacy partnered with Gideon Kempen, representative from Cipla. Cipla is the main supplier of inhalers to the Department of Health. Gideon spent the week at Helderberg Hospital, counselling asthmatic patients using inhalers. He set up a table in the pharmacy waiting area and gave short educational talks to patients. Those patients receiving inhalers were referred to Gideon by the pharmacists and doctors.

The pharmacy counselling room was ideal to discuss both the use of inhalers and the importance of adhering to treatment, with patients as well as parents of paediatric patients. The room gave patients privacy, so Gideon could check their inhalation techniques without embarrassing them.

Nursing personnel were not neglected as four in-service training sessions took place.

The pharmacist and Gideon took discharge medication to the paediatric ward where they were able to explain and demonstrate the use of the mask and spacer to the patients' mothers.

The Hospital Pharmacy would like to acknowledge and thank Gideon for the time and effort he put into educating both staff and patients.