

An Interdisciplinary Medication Management Program for Seniors in the Community

A Project Funded by the Primary Health Care Transition Fund of the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care

Peel Senior Link (PSL), in partnership with the Ontario Home and Community Care Council and the University of Toronto, Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy, is offering a Medication Management Service until the end of February, at **no charge**, for seniors living in 11 apartment buildings where supportive housing services are provided by Peel Senior Link. The purpose of this project is to enhance or maintain seniors' independence and quality of life by ensuring that they get the best results from their drug therapy. The program consists of a pharmacist visiting consenting seniors in their home to gather information about the senior's medications (prescription and non-prescription, as well as natural health products), medical conditions, health behaviours, and risk factors for medication problems. The pharmacist develops a care plan that outlines recommended interventions and follow-up. Findings from this assessment are shared (with permission from the senior) with the family physician and other health care providers that may be involved in his/her care. Seniors can be referred to the program by PSL building supervisors, family physicians and other health care providers. Many residents have self-referred to the program. As of December 31st, 2005 the pharmacist has provided service for 50 seniors. Initial feedback from seniors during satisfaction interviews indicated that participants appreciated the service and felt the information they gained from the pharmacist was helpful.