

# Let's PLAN pharmacy week – are you in?



Pharmacies are invited to take part in *Let's PLAN* pharmacy week, which will run from 22 to 28 February 2015. The week is about encouraging people to learn more about their medicines by talking to their pharmacist, or taking away information. The overall aim is to improve health literacy and reduce harm from high-risk medicines.

## Display competition

### There are two iPads up for grabs

One each for the North Island and South Island pharmacy with the best *Let's PLAN* display. The iPads will come pre-loaded with The Pharmacy e-Practice Handbook, the New Zealand Formulary and other useful resources.

To be in to win, take a photo of your pharmacy's display and upload it to our website [www.open.hqsc.govt.nz/patient-safety-week/lets-plan/pharmacy-week/competition](http://www.open.hqsc.govt.nz/patient-safety-week/lets-plan/pharmacy-week/competition). Two finalists will be selected for the North Island and two for the South Island. Winners will receive an iPad, and runners up a morning tea for their team valued at \$100. An advertisement will be taken out in the local community newspaper, congratulating the winner, and a media release will be circulated.

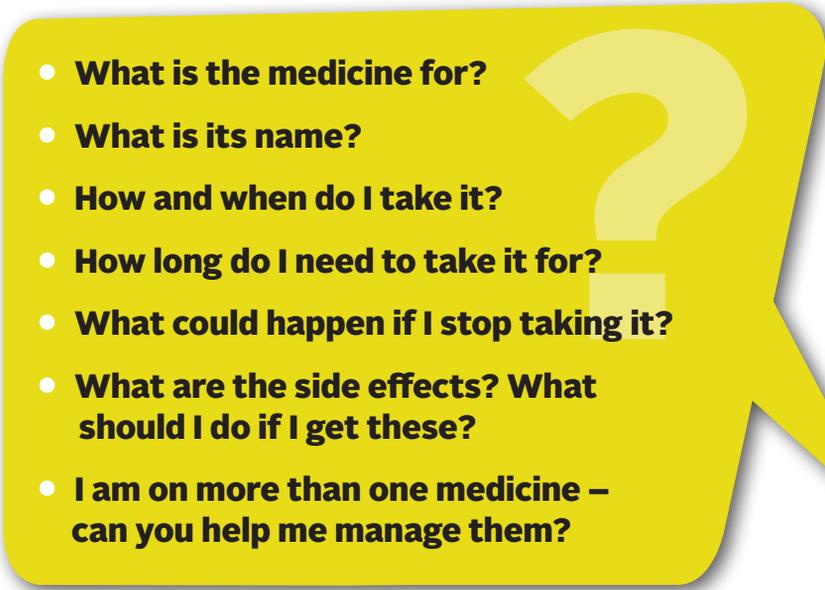
## Who's behind it?

*Let's PLAN* pharmacy week is brought to you by the Health Quality & Safety Commission's *Open for better care* national patient safety campaign, in partnership with *First, Do No Harm* in the Northern region.

It is supported by the Pharmaceutical Society and the Pharmacy Guild.

## What's it all about?

*Let's PLAN* pharmacy week is an extension of the promotion of the Health Quality & Safety Commission's *Let's PLAN for better care* resource – an A4 tear-off sheet available for distribution by general practices and pharmacies to help consumers plan for their next health care visit. The resource includes questions people may want to ask their pharmacist such as:

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- **What is the medicine for?**
  - **What is its name?**
  - **How and when do I take it?**
  - **How long do I need to take it for?**
  - **What could happen if I stop taking it?**
  - **What are the side effects? What should I do if I get these?**
  - **I am on more than one medicine – can you help me manage them?**



You can find out more about *Let's PLAN for better care* on the Commission's website. *Let's PLAN* was developed as part of the *Open for better care* campaign. The current campaign focus is on reducing harm from high-risk medicines.

## What do I need to do?

Put together a fantastic *Let's PLAN* display in the last week of February! We can provide you with:

- *Let's PLAN* posters
- *Let's PLAN* pads
- factsheets on high-risk medicines, and medication safety pamphlets for consumers to take away.



## What if we don't want to do a display?

We'd love it if you'd still put up the *Let's PLAN* medication posters and distribute the *Let's PLAN* pads and other consumer information.

# To take part . . .

We will send all community and hospital pharmacies copies of the resources at the beginning of February 2015 – you don't have to produce anything. We would be very grateful if you would display and distribute these and would love it if you would enter the display competition. Further details about the competition will be sent to you in the February mailout. If you have any queries, or **do not** want to receive the resources, please email Guy Somerset at [guy.somerset@hqsc.govt.nz](mailto:guy.somerset@hqsc.govt.nz).

[www.open.hqsc.govt.nz](http://www.open.hqsc.govt.nz)