

As fall approaches many of us have started cleaning closets and preparing for winter. We at Venta Care Centre are starting to do those very same things. The Occupational Health & Safety department along with Infection Control would like to ensure that products brought into the facility are safe and are in appropriate sizes.

As most of you are aware, last year Venta Care Centre purchased toolkits for each resident. These toolkits are used to house all personal items such as shampoos, conditioners, body lotions, toothbrushes/ toothpastes, razors, combs, hair brushes, and medicated creams etc. They make it easy to contain all resident's personal items in one location and prevent these items from being used by someone else or being used inappropriately. The toolkits are not very large, so when large "Costco" style bottles of products are brought into the facility they are unable to fit into the toolkits. This means that there are bottles left in the open which can be used by anyone. Other residents may get into these products which could be dangerous. The toolkit also makes it convenient for staff to carry all necessary products to one spot to provide care.

We are also bound by WHMIS laws. This means that all containers must be labeled with the supplier label and no items may be decanted (taken from a large container and placed into a small container). We are also required to ensure that some specific products have an MSDS sheet (Material Safety Data Sheet).

We would ask that you please review the Admission Agreement items: 5, 7- (Please read Admission Agreement) 19- "I understand that denture paste (unless directed by the dental department staff); soaks and mouth rinses are not permitted at VCC" 28- "I understand that all solutions (toiletries must be clearly labeled with the original manufactures' container. Chemicals and solutions that may cause harm to me or to other residents may not be stored in resident's rooms. This includes but is not limited to cleaning agents and hair products. Sharp objects such as scissors and knifes are not allowed in residents rooms" This information can be found on our website under 'Family Education' in the General Information Booklet. In the next week we will be cleaning out all the large oversized bottles, prohibited cleaning products, and other prohibited items found in each resident's room. Please note that baby powder is a prohibited item as it causes respiratory irritation and may not be compatible with some of the medicated ointments used at Venta Care Centre. Any items collected will be bagged with the residents name on it and placed in the nursing station for pick up.

Venta Care Centre does provide soap and shampoo for resident use. We do understand that some residents like their own personal items and we want to respect that. Please ensure the bottles are approximately 700 ml or less so they can be placed in the toolkits.

We wish to thank you in advance for your co-operation and partnership in making Resident Safety the number one priority.

If you have any questions please contact Sarah Elsokari at 780.476.6678