



Westways Staff News



WESTWAYS STAFFING SERVICES, INC.



Black Box Warning

Courtesy of wisegeek.com

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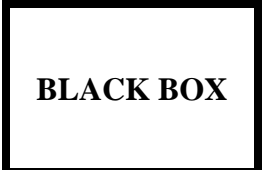
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A black box warning is a notice on the packaging of a prescription drug which warns patients and prescribers that the drug has potentially dangerous side effects. This warning system is primarily used by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), an American regulatory agency which oversees the safety of pharmaceuticals produced and sold in the United States. Other national regulatory agencies may use different systems to indicate that drugs are potentially dangerous.

When a drug receives a black box warning, it means that studies on the drug have suggested that it can have dangerous or even deadly side effects. Black box warnings are often added retrospectively as the result of information about a drug which has been uncovered in the course of routine usage. When doctors start reporting high levels of dangerous side effects for a prescription drug, the FDA may hold a review to decide whether or not the drug requires a black box warning.

The "black box" in "black box warning" refers to the bold black border which is drawn around the warning. The border is designed to draw attention to the warning, and to offset it from other information which may be present in pharmaceutical packaging. Thanks to widespread public awareness of the implications of a black box warning, a black box on drug packaging serves as an alert that the drug is dangerous even before people read the text of the warning.

Black box warnings must typically be included on the packaging of the drug, and in the printed inserts used to provide information about the drug to patients and prescribers. They are designed to alert patients to the potential dangers of the drug, and they also alert pharmacists and doctors. Patients who receive a drug with a black box warning may want to discuss the warning and its implications with their doctors, as people should not take drugs with potentially deadly side effects without knowing what those side effects are and how to recognize them.





Harold's Corner

*Harold Sterling is the President/Chief Executive Officer for Westways Staffing Services.

Spring Is Here Time To Start Planting

With spring here and planting season, in many places, just around the corner, I particularly don't have a green thumb. I find it hard to grow plants and keep them green. Gardeners always stress the importance of choosing high quality seeds. Plant and nurture them and be careful to keep the weeds under control. I have come up with a plan that I will consider this year by using the fundamentals and skills I have used in my profession to have a successful garden.

First, let's plant some peas. Passion tops the list of skills you will need to excel in the garden or professionally. Passion always enhances our performance. When you love what you do, you'll do it better. Then persistence should come next. We need to be persistent so we won't give up.

Now, let's plant some squash. This will promote a positive environment. Squashing gossip is necessary because the damage is not easily undone. Squash criticism that is not constructive or offered in a useful spirit.

Next, we will plant some lettuce rows that will allow our character and flowers to bloom. Let us be true to our obligations. Honoring our obligations represents a commitment to our words that our garden expects and appreciates. Let us be unselfish. These are the fundamentals to good human relations. Let us be loyal. Someone can be a great worker, but if they aren't loyal, our garden won't be as lush as expected, and it could put our employment in jeopardy.

We will water freely with patience and cultivate with affection. We must have fun at what we are doing and really love what we do. Remember, the width of life is as important as the length. We need to branch out to truly blossom.



From D.O.nna

*Donna Couturié is the Director of Clinical Operations for Westways Staffing Services.

Here we go again...

Nurses are familiar with Joint Commission surveys conducted in the hospitals, but many of the Westways nurses I have spoken to recently were unaware that Joint Commission has a certification program for health care staffing agencies. And, of course, the most common question most of our nurses ask is, "why become certified?" Believe me, I've asked myself the same question.

Becoming certified by the Joint Commission is not going to change the way Westways Staffing Services operates. We already know we have the best nurses and that our reputation in the community and with our client hospitals is strong. What it will show our clients is that we care enough to go that extra mile. Westways Staffing Services, Inc. cares that the nurses we send out are oriented and treated well by the hospital. We care enough to respond quickly to any problem brought to our attention, either by one of our nurses or by the hospital. These are just an example of some of the issues Joint Commission is looking at when they review a health care staffing agency.

So, in the next few weeks, when "papers" from Westways show up in your mailbox, PLEASE take a moment to review, complete, and return them, if requested. We are striving for 100% compliance in our file audits, so if one of our hard working staffers calls with a request for an update from you, PLEASE RESPOND QUICKLY!

Westways Staffing Services, Inc. is the best, but now we're hoping to be BETTER THAN THE BEST.

Black Box Warning cont.

Some notable examples of black box warnings include the warnings on antidepressant drugs which indicate that these drugs can cause suicidal thoughts in teenagers and children, and the black box warning on the anticoagulant drug warfarin, warning about the risk of bleeding to death while on the medication. As a general rule, drugs with a black box warning are left on the market because their benefits are viewed as more valuable than their potential dangers, but sometimes a black box drug will be removed from the market after evaluation by the FDA.

EXAMPLE

PROZAC®
FLUOXETINE CAPSULES, USP
FLUOXETINE ORAL SOLUTION, USP
FLUOXETINE DELAYED-RELEASE CAPSULES, USP

WARNING

Suicidality and Antidepressant Drugs — Antidepressants increased the risk compared to placebo of suicidal thinking and behavior (suicidality) in children, adolescents, and young adults in short-term studies of major depressive disorder (MDD) and other psychiatric disorders. Anyone considering the use of Prozac or any other antidepressant in a child, adolescent, or young adult must balance this risk with the clinical need. Short-term studies did not show an increase in the risk of suicidality with antidepressants compared to placebo in adults beyond age 24; there was a reduction in risk with antidepressants compared to placebo in adults aged 65 and older. Depression and certain other psychiatric disorders are themselves associated with increases in the risk of suicide. Patients of all ages who are started on antidepressant therapy should be monitored appropriately and observed closely for clinical worsening, suicidality, or unusual changes in behavior. Families and caregivers should be advised of the need for close observation and communication with the prescriber. Prozac is approved for use in pediatric patients with MDD and obsessive compulsive disorder (OCD). (See WARNINGS, Clinical Worsening and Suicide Risk, PRECAUTIONS, Information for Patients, and PRECAUTIONS, Pediatric Use.)



myStaff



Name: Carlos R.

Branch: Phoenix, AZ

What's Carlos' job? Regional Director of Marketing

About Carlos:

Enjoys spending fun times and celebrations with friends and family. He also likes to stay active as much as possible by; Working out, Biking, Hiking, Golfing, Swimming, Snowboarding, Wakeboarding, playing Basketball, Kickball, and Racquetball. He likes watching Spring Training Baseball, NBA, and NFL games live. During his 3 years living in Arizona, Carlos really enjoys trips back home to Michigan to see friends and family.



*The seasons are what a symphony ought
to be: four perfect movements in
harmony with each other.*

~Arthur Rubenstein



WESTWAYS UPDATES



SAN BERNARDINO, CA

SAVE THE DATE: May 7th, 2010 for Nurse's Day Celebration in the San Bernardino office!! We have something very special planned for our nurses that work so hard and positively represent Westways!! More information to follow!!!

LONG BEACH , CA

The Long Beach office wants to welcome Aaron Kasdorf. He is the new Director of Allied Services for Westways. He has made our office his new home base. He brings over 8 years of experience with him. He places MA's, RT's, OT's, PT's, ORT's, LVN's and many other classifications. If you know anyone who is looking for a good company to work with, they can reach Aaron at 562-490-0410. He has job openings right now that he is looking to fill.

We are planning our Nurses' Week celebration. More information to follow in the next few weeks. We hope that you will be able to stop by and share in our celebration.

P.S. We need ER and ICU nurses for the night shift. We have facilities who have needs and not enough RN's to fill them. Call us at (866) 547-5571 for more details.

SAN DIEGO, CA

The San Diego office census has gone up and we have INCENTIVE pay for ICU & DOU all over the county!! AM's & PM's!!

If you are interested or have any questions, give us a call at (800) 574-9674.

LOS ANGELES, CA

All needs can be met in Los Angeles.

Give us a call anytime (800) 684-3703.

AUSTIN, TX

Spring has come to Texas!!! The weather is finally getting warmer!

Please welcome our new part time office employee, Pat R.!

Welcome to Austin's new hires as well!

Lorene G. RRT
Jozette A. CNA
Maggie H. RN
Mary M. RN
Dekeyan C RN

Herbert E. RN
Vergie S. C.NA
Mimie N. LVN
Carol F., LVN
Roy B.,RRT

PHOENIX, AZ

The Phoenix office is now working with the Scottsdale Healthcare Hospitals. These three facilities include; Scottsdale Healthcare Osborn Medical Center, Shea Medical Center, and Thompson Peak Hospital. These facilities have been very busy and are some of the nicest facilities in the Phoenix Valley. Please let any nurse friends know about the opportunity to pick up shifts at these and other area hospitals in Arizona.

Please contact us at(888) 335-6004 with any questions.

LAS VEGAS, NV

To any nurse that is thinking about working in the great city of Las Vegas, now is a great time! The weather is still great and the hospitals are full of patients.

If you would like more information on working in Las Vegas, NV please call Matt Jensen at (800) 611-4812.

ALBUQUERQUE, MN

We have been very busy credentialing many new nurses and techs. Thanks everyone for all the referrals! We continue to hear many compliments about Westways and the way we treat our nurses and techs.



WESTWAYS UPDATES



ORANGE, CA

CORPORATE IS MOVING

APRIL 2010

NEW ADDRESS:

505 CITY PARKWAY WEST, SUITE 100
ORANGE, CA 92868

Westways Orange office would like to thank everyone who has completed Epic training for our Memorial Care hospitals. For more information on Orange County hospital specific training dates and internet training access please call us at (800) 575-9674 or email us at ocstaff@westwaysstaffing.com. Great job everyone!!

BAKERSFIELD, CA

Bakersfield is in need of CNA's. The Bakersfield facilities are stepping up requests for sitters due to the influx of patients with sitter needs. The area hospitals are also picking up travel needs for TELE due to the opening of a new floor at Memorial. This spring is looking like it could be very busy, so get your work history up to date and we'll be ready to submit you for any travel need as they come up.

Please contact us at (800) 486-0093 or bastaff@westwaysstaffing.com.



BENEFIT CORNER



by Connie L.

Spring is here, yippee! So is tax time, ugh! And Easter! Love spring, hate taxes, and enjoy Easter.

April is Eye Health and Safety Month

Eye experts say nine out of ten eye injuries could be avoided if people used the right safety eyewear. There are about 2.5 million eye injuries every year, according to the American Academy of Ophthalmology. Nearly half happen around the house during activities such as cooking, mowing the lawn or working in the garage.

Prevention can be as easy as wearing safety glasses when doing the following:

- Using cleaners or solvents
- Cooking with grease or oil
- Working with hammers, drills, and other tools
- Mowing the lawn
- Securing a load with bungee cords
- Working on your car

Another Health tip:

Deep green fruits and vegetables may help improve eyesight. So load up on avocados, artichokes, Granny Smith apples, spinach, broccoli, kiwi and other green goodies. These can help us with our realistic health goals that we have set for this year also!

Did you know that UnitedHealthcare has a new Benefit Newsletter? To learn more about the tools, services, and resources available to you through UnitedHealthcare, visit:

[http://image.unitedhealthcareupdate.com/lib/fefd167076600d/m/1/04.10 benefit awareness.html](http://image.unitedhealthcareupdate.com/lib/fefd167076600d/m/1/04.10%20benefit%20awareness.html)

This is for all of you that have the PPO plan.



NURSE WEEK 2010



May 6 - 12, 2010

You are invited to Westways Staffing Services' annual Nurse Week party at your local branch office. If you are feeling adventurous, you can always try to attend more than one party. Feel free to contact your local branch office for more information.*

Long Beach

4000 Orange Ave.
Long Beach, CA 90807
May 7th, 12 pm – 4 pm
Food and Drinks

Los Angeles

3255 Wilshire Blvd., Ste. 1602
Los Angeles, CA 90010
May 7th, 11 am – 2 pm
Food and Drinks

Phoenix

4350 E. Camelback Rd., Ste. B240
Phoenix, AZ 85018
May 7th, 11 am – 3 pm
Appetizers, Food, and Drinks

Bakersfield

841 Mohawk St., Ste. 150
Bakersfield, CA 93309
May 6th, 12:00 pm – 4:00 pm
Food and Drinks

Las Vegas

501 S. Rancho Dr., Ste. F-40
Las Vegas, NV 89106
May 12th 12:00 pm – 2:00 pm
Food and Drinks

Austin

3701 Executive Center Dr., Ste. 151
Austin, TX 78731
May 7th, 1 pm – 4 pm
Food and Drinks

San Diego

East Village Tavern
930 Market Street
San Diego, CA 92101
May 7th, 6pm – 10pm
Food and Drinks

San Bernardino

225 East Airport Dr., Ste. 120
San Bernardino, CA 92408
May 7th, 11:30 am – 3:30 pm
Spa Day: Appetizers, Drinks,
and Massages

Albuquerque

2125 Louisiana Blvd., NE Ste. 165
Albuquerque, NM 87110
May 7th, 1 pm – 4 pm
Appetizers and Drinks

Orange

Lucky Strike Lanes
@ the Block of Orange
Private Party Suite
20 City Blvd. West
Orange, CA 92868
Friday, May 7th, 6 pm – 9 pm
Appetizers, Food, and Drinks



*Locations and dates are subject to change. Please call your local branch office for more information.



April BIRTHDAY LIST



ANA B.
 APRIL S.
 BETTY N.
 CHRISTOPHER R.
 CHRIS W.
 CHRISTINA M.
 CINDY L.
 CORNELL H.
 DEBBIE H.
 DONITA F.
 ELIZABETH M.
 EMMANUEL O.
 ESTHER C.
 EVA J.
 GERI B.
 GUILLERMOP P.
 GWENDOLENE D.
 HEBER C.
 HELEN O.

JEAN M.
 JENNIFER H.
 JENNIFER K.
 JENNIFER K.
 KAILANA M.
 KATHERYNE P.
 KELLI K.
 KELLY A.
 KIMBERLY G.
 KLAR P.
 LAURA H.
 LISA F.
 MANDY D.
 MARLENE B.
 MARTHA M.
 MARY R.
 MICHELLE C.
 MONDRIA M.
 MONICA F.

MUKAILA K.
 NICOLE B.
 PATRICIA P.
 PHYLLIS W.
 PRISCILLA D.
 RITA S.
 RUTH P.
 SALENA T.
 SEITH L.
 SHANNON L.
 SHEILA M.
 SHERRY G.
 SONIA V.
 SUMMER T.
 SUSAN B.
 THERESA C.
 TOYA G.
 YUSOFF Z.



Nurse of the Month



Orange - John G.

Los Angeles - Erleen B.

Long Beach - Angelo V.

San Diego - Connie L.

San Bernardino - Jazmin J.

Bakersfield - Rebekah O.

Las Vegas, NV - Kyle C.

Albuquerque, NM - Kathy S.

Phoenix, AZ - Melissa T.

Austin, TX - David A.

APRIL
2010 ISSUE

WESTWAYS
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To Our Valued Westways Employee

Work with the best!

VISIT US ON THE WEB!
WWW.WESTWAYSSTAFFING.COM



Westways Staff News

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Connie L., and Dannielle L.

This newsletter is published on a monthly basis and distributed free to
all Westways Staff.

*We welcome your feedback on our newsletter. For questions, comments,
suggestions and contributions, please contact Dannielle
at (714) 712-4150 or via e-mail at dannielle@westwaysstaffing.com.*