

TADISO TIMES

ISSUE 191

April 2018

IMPORTANT NEWS

Tadiso's new dispensing area will be finished in a few weeks. Please look for signs announcing this change. Patients will continue to park in the FRONT parking lot until the new LOBBY is constructed. This will not be finished until July or August.

SPRING IS IN THE AIR...and that means so are allergies.

Seasonal allergies affect millions of people every year, but did you know that they can also affect oral health?

Why Do We Get Seasonal Allergies?



While there are plenty of allergens that can make us sneeze year round, such as dust and pet dander, seasonal allergies typically flare up twice a year: in the spring and the fall. This can mean long months of congestion, an itchy nose, mouth, eyes, or throat, puffy eyes, sneezing, and coughing for people with allergies.

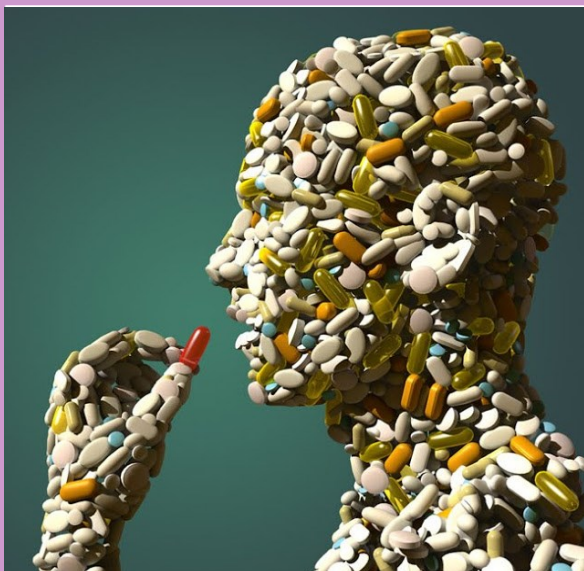
The reason our allergies act up the most during spring and fall is that trees and grass pollinate throughout the spring, while ragweed pollinates in the fall. Mold will also send out spores around the same time. Allergic reactions, including seasonal allergies, are the result of our immune systems going into overdrive in response to these allergens.

Allergies Versus Oral Health

While allergies can result in tingly or swollen lips, mouth, or tongue and irritated gums, the most common way seasonal allergies can become a problem for oral health is dry mouth. Whenever we have congestion, we end up breathing through our mouths instead of our noses, which dries up our saliva. Having dry mouth presents a serious threat to oral health, because saliva is the mouth's first line of defense against gum disease and tooth decay.

Prevention And Treatment

Because many allergens are airborne, avoiding allergic reactions can be difficult, but there are a few things you can do. It's best to **stay indoors on extra windy days** when the most allergens are in the air. You should also wear a pollen mask while doing yard work, and avoid using window fans that could blow pollen and spores into your house. If you do end up having an allergy attack, drink plenty of water to **stay hydrated and chew sugar-free gum** to stimulate your salivary glands, and keep up your daily brushing and flossing routine. Make sure you also take the anti-allergy medications your doctor or allergist recommends to minimize your congestion.



METHADONE DOESN'T MIX WITH.....It is very dangerous to combine methadone with other drugs, especially those that cause drowsiness. Risk of opioid overdose and death increases at higher dosages, and when taken for longer periods of time or more often than prescribed.

Combinations that Increase Risk

Overdose risk increases when your medication is combined with:

Alcohol

Benzodiazepines (also known as "benzos," including diazepam and alprazolam)

Other sedatives

Other opioids (prescription or illicit, including heroin)

Dr. Reese says "Stop and think. Is this worth the risk?"

A positive benzo UA will get you a meeting with Dr. Reese.

TADISO TAKE HOME MEDICATION

Take home medication is a privilege. Tadiso understands your desire for this privilege but safety comes first. If you are fortunate to receive this privilege, and lose it for any reasons listed below, it may be difficult to regain privileges. **Tadiso reserves the right to revoke take-home medication for the following reasons:**

Recent abuse of drugs (narcotic or non-narcotic) including alcohol

Continued no-show's for scheduled appointments

Frequently rescheduling appointments without verification

Missing any scheduled medication days

Serious behavioral issues at the clinic

Recent criminal activity

If you are caught loitering or selling drugs on Tadiso's property or a three block radius of Tadiso

Any disruptions identified that make for an unstable home environment or unstable social relationships

Medication has not safely been stored

Reports that medication was stolen

Take-home bottle has been damaged or tampered with

Failure to return a take-home bottle

Anytime there is suspicion pertaining to diversion

Coming to the clinic presenting as "under the influence"

Violation of the Weapon's Policy

Failing to provide a requested drug screen

Failing to return for a scheduled "call-back"

When an increase in patient medication is ordered, the patient is temporarily returned to daily status, until the medical doctor assesses the patient as stable on their dosage of methadone

Financial issues resulting in an unaddressed balance for patients account

Prescription medications are not brought in for verification

The patient refuses to sign releases related to prescription medication

The patient has been identified as being on the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program, BUT failed to submit the prescription to Tadiso

The patient has been identified on the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program as receiving a prescription BUT it does not appear in their urine drug screen

Anytime a patient is taking a narcotic, take-homes will be temporarily rescinded, until the patient has finished the prescription medication and the patient is able to provide a negative urine drug screen

Anytime a patient is placed on a medically supervised withdrawal

If Tadiso's physician does not believe the patient is able to responsibly handle the care, storage, and management of methadone, a schedule II narcotic.

WE HAVE A DUTY TO KEEP YOU AND THE COMMUNITY SAFE.