

Patricia J. Neafsey, RD, PhD

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Professor

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Biography

Dr. Neafsey received a BS and MS from Cornell University in Nutritional Biochemistry and a doctorate in Pharmaceutical Science from the University of Connecticut. She is a pharmacologist and Registered Dietitian with over 25 years of experience teaching nutrition and pharmacology for nurses and allied health professionals. Dr. Neafsey has conducted research on the prescribing practices of advanced practice nurses, the self-medication practices of older adults, and the development and implementation of computer assisted programs on pharmacology. She is the author of numerous journal articles and educational software programs, acts as a consultant to various publishers, and wrote an award winning monthly Medication News column for *Home Healthcare Nurse* from 2000-2005. She is currently PI on an R01 funded by the NHLBI and is collaborating with Zoe Strickler, MDes and Carolyn Lin, PhD on a program that aims to reduce adverse self-medication behaviors in older adults with hypertension. The Personal Education Program – Next Generation (PEP-NG) will allow older adults to report their self-medication behaviors using a touch-screen interface on a tablet PC in the healthcare provider's office. The PEP-NG provides the patient with an interactive education program tailored to their specific behaviors. At the same time, a report of the patient's adverse self-medication behaviors and corrective strategies enables the provider to reinforce the PEP-NG teaching points at the health care visit.

Current Research Interests

Dr. Neafsey's research interests include reducing adverse self-medication practices in active older adults, development and evaluation of computer-assisted instruction in pharmacology, prescribing practices of advanced practice nurses, and quantitative risk assessment.