



Established 1972

By and For the People of Love County

**Richard Barker,
Administrator**

**Ambulance Emergency
911**

**Clinic Appointments
276-2400**

**Hospital Information
276-3347**

**Adult Day Center
276-1542**

**Community Resources
211**

**Domestic Violence Help
276-2042
Hotline - 226-6424**

**Growers Market
276-9410**

HOSPITAL PHARMACIST PROMOTES DRUG EDUCATION

Susan Ritter became the hospital's consultant pharmacist in 2015. She has been a practicing pharmacist since 2000 and holds a doctor of pharmacy degree from the University of Oklahoma. She comes from a family of pharmacists, including two uncles who encouraged her to enter the profession.

Ritter is working behind the scene for you when you get admitted to the hospital. She is bringing her expertise to the nurse-pharmacists who prepare your IV drip and medications and make sure the medicines are properly administered.

To pharmacists, the "five rights" of medication usage in the hospital are: "Right drug, right patient, right dose, right route, and right frequency."

"I love helping nurses become more knowledgeable," Ritter said. "They look at patient care in a new way when they understand how drugs work and can help patients understand their medications while they are in the hospital and after they are discharged."

In addition to reviewing individual patient medications, the pharmacist offers a layer of protection to the whole institution. She brings accountability to dispensing, stocking, and tracking medications in the hospital, emergency room, and ambulance service.

During Poison Prevention Week, Ritter joins the hospital's school nurses with information for presentations to children on medication safety.

Mercy Health/Love County is one of the largest rural hospitals in Ritter's consultancy. "This hospital does very well in treating a lot of people. It has a great health care staff that prizes education and putting patient needs first," she said.

For the first 10 years of her career, Ritter filled prescriptions in a community pharmacy. In addition, she has five years of practice in the home infusion specialty. She compounded intravenous solutions injected by needle or catheter into patients whose condition is so severe it cannot be treated effectively by oral medications. Pharmacists in this field are helping patients receive treatment at home following or in place of a hospital stay.



Susan Ritter, PharmD
Consultant Pharmacist

We're YOUR Hospital, Clinic and EMS

Mercy Health/Love County

*The Small-Town Hospital
with the Big Heart*

300 Wanda - Marietta, OK 73448

www.mercyhealthlovecounty.com