



Q: I feel fine, why can't I stop taking my medicine?

A: Even if you are not currently experiencing any symptoms, your condition is ongoing and your medicine keeps it from getting worse. For example, you usually can't feel high blood pressure—but if you don't treat it you can damage your heart.

Q: What happens if I decide to stop taking my medicine?

A: Suddenly stopping your medicine without your healthcare provider's (HCP's) okay can be dangerous. It can result in serious injury, or even death. When you abruptly stop taking your medicine, your condition could get worse. Think about how your car reacts if you slam on the brakes—not good, right? The same may be true for your medicine routine.

Q: What if I don't feel better even though I'm taking my medicine?

A: Sometimes, medicine needs time to work. When you are prescribed a medicine, ask your HCP or pharmacist how long it should take to start working. It may take time to determine the correct dose for you, so let your HCP or pharmacist know if you aren't feeling any effects.

Q: If I stop taking my medicine, won't it be easy to just start taking it again?

A: It may sound like a simple thing to start taking your medicine again once you've stopped, but it isn't:

- It may take awhile for the medicine to start working again.
- Depending on how long it has been since you stopped, your medicine may have expired, and you will have to buy a new prescription.
- Many prescriptions are only good for one year—meaning you may have to pay for a visit to the HCP's office to get another one.
- Sometimes you can't just start back up with the same dose. You may need to start over at a lower dose than you were taking.

Q: What should I do if I want to change my medicine routine?

A: Talk to your HCP or pharmacist before you make any changes in your medicine routine (like taking it less often, or taking it at night instead of in the morning).