

FOR NEW MEDICATIONS

Ask your Healthcare Provider (HCP)...

- What is this new medicine for?
- Are there any non-drug options that I could consider?
- What are we hoping this new medicine will do for me?
- When should I expect the medicine to begin working?
- When can I expect the full effect of this medicine to occur?
- How long will I have to take this medicine?
- How often will I need to come back to check the effects of this medicine?
- Will I need any tests to see if the medicine is working? If so, what tests and how often?
- What happens if I have side effects from the medicine?
- What happens if the medicine does not seem to work or does not work well enough?

Ask your pharmacist . . .

- What is the name of the medicine and what is it supposed to do?
- How much of this medicine should I take?
- When is the best time of day to take this medicine?
- Should I take this medicine with or without food? Are there foods or drinks that I should avoid while I am taking this medicine?
- What side effects can I expect from this medicine?
- Will this medicine interfere with any of my other medicines?
- Will this medicine make any of my conditions worse?
- What things should my doctor and I do to make sure this medicine is working properly?
- How should I store this medicine?
- What should I do if I miss a dose?
- Will I need to get this medicine refilled?
- Are there refills on the prescription?
- Are there any over-the-counter (non-prescription) medicines I should avoid while taking this medicine?

FOR EXISTING MEDICATIONS

Ask your HCP...

- Do I still need to take this medicine?
- Specifically, why do I need to take this medicine?
- Are there any tests to check if the medicine is working? If so, what tests?
- What are my results?
- Are my results where they should be? Or could the results be better?
- If results could be better, what changes if any do you plan to make to my medications?
- What can I do to make results better?
- If you have symptoms or side effects, ask if these could be due to your medicine.
- Tell your HCP if you do not think your medicine is helping.

Ask your pharmacist . . .

- Tell your pharmacist if you are having any problems or side effects with your current medicines.
- Before taking an over-the-counter (non-prescription) medication or herbal therapy, ask your pharmacist about any possible drug interactions or side effects
- Tell your pharmacist if you do not believe the medicine is helping.

Source: Adapted from adultmedication.com