



As your pharmacist, I believe you know what needs to be asked about any prescription medication. You have good reasons for asking these questions. Here are a few examples of questions most often asked, and why (you may see your reasons here):

- **What is the name of the medicine?** Some prescriptions are written for “brand” names, others for “generic” names.
- **What does this medication do?** Your healthcare practitioner (HCP) may have given you a reason for prescribing the drug. However, you may still want to know what it does and how it works.
- **When and how do I take the medicine? For how long?** Knowing how long to be on a medicine is as important as having Instructions on how to take it.
- **Is there information I can take home?** You probably get some information with your prescription, but the pharmacy has a lot of printed information about different medicines and conditions that I can share with you.
- **What if I miss a dose?** How you take missed doses depends on the kind of medicine you take. I can help with that.
- **What side effects can the medicine have? How can I avoid or manage them?** Answers to these questions can help to reduce fear of side effects.
- **Are there specific foods, drinks, or activities I should avoid while taking the medicine?** Knowing what to avoid can help your medicine work effectively.



Thank you for your questions. I welcome them at any time.

Adapted from Information on the Importance of Medications. Consumer Information page. Adult Meducation Web site.
<http://www.adultmeducation.com/ConsumerInformation.html>. Accessed December 1, 2010.