

## At Home

- Take only the medicine given to you by your doctor or pharmacist. Do not share your medicine with other people and do not take other people's medicine.
- Each time you take your medicine, read the label to make sure you are taking it correctly. If you have questions, call your doctor or pharmacist.
- Turn on the lights before you take your medicines.
- Do not stop taking the medicine just because you feel better, unless your doctor tells you to stop taking it.
- Do not take your medicine out of one bottle and put it in another one, unless placing into a day-by-day dispenser.
- Put all of your medicine in a place where children and pets cannot reach it. Keep medications separate from pet medicines or household chemicals.
- Keep your **Home Medication List** updated.
- Don't keep ointments next to tubes of toothpaste.
- Do not store medicine in the car, by the stove, or in the bathroom, since heat and dampness can affect how it works.
- Don't crush, chew or break tablets or capsules unless instructed to.

## In the Hospital

- When you are admitted to the hospital, take your updated Home Medication List, or bring all of your medicines in the original bottles. Include over-the-counter medicines, vitamins and supplements.
- Tell your doctor or nurse about any allergies or reactions that you have had to medicine in the past.
- Do not let anyone give you medications unless they check your identification band.
- If you feel that any medicine is making you sick or causing you pain, tell the doctor or nurse right away.
- When you are dismissed from the hospital, ask your doctor or nurse to clearly tell you what medicines you should be taking, and how to take them.

## At the Doctor's Office

- Always take your updated **Home Medication List**. This will tell your doctor everything you are taking, including prescription medicines, over-the-counter medicines and supplements.
- Tell your doctor about any allergies or reactions that you have had to medicine in the past.
- If you receive samples, ask your doctor to check for drug interactions.



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