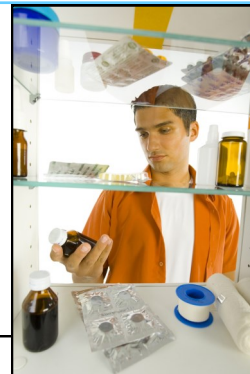


Storing Medicines Safely

When you store your medicines correctly they work well when you need them.



DO

- ✓ Store drugs out of children's reach.
- ✓ Read the labels carefully. Some medicines, like antibiotics or insulin, need to be refrigerated to work well.
- ✓ Keep medicines in their original container. A name on the container may keep others from taking it by accident.
- ✓ Check the expiration date each time you take a drug. Replace any medications that are out of date.
- ✓ Check with your pharmacist if you are not sure of how to store the medicine.



DON'T

- ✓ Keep medicines in the medicine cabinet in the bathroom. The heat and humidity can damage the medicines.
- ✓ Keep your medicines in the kitchen. Heat from stoves and ovens can damage them.
- ✓ Leave the cotton plug in a medicine bottle. This can draw moisture into the container.
- ✓ Use a medication that has changed color, texture, or odor, even if it has not expired.