

Questions to Ask Your Pharmacist About Your Medicines

Your local pharmacist can play an important role in making sure you take your medications safely. The pharmacist is available to answer questions about your medicines and their effects.

Following are some questions you can ask to make sure you understand how to take your medications safely. Be sure to accurately inform the pharmacist of all the medications you are taking and include over-the-counter medicines (like pain relievers or anti-itch creams) as well as herbal and natural supplements (like vitamins, garlic or St. John's Wart).

- What is the name of the drug and what is it supposed to do?
- How and when do I take it—and for how long?
- What foods, drinks, other medicines or activities should I avoid while taking this drug?
- Are there any side effects, and what do I do if they occur?
- Is there any written information available about the drug?
- Question anything you don't understand or that doesn't seem right. Make sure to ask if you receive a prescription refill that seems to have a different strength or looks different from your original prescription.



Connecticut Poison Control Center

