

Understanding your medicines after hospital

- If you have been prescribed new medicines, you will usually be given a small supply when you leave hospital. **See your GP as soon as possible** after going home so you can get prescriptions for medicines that you need more of.
- **Your medicines may have changed** while you were in hospital. You may have new medicine, or you may need to take your usual medicine in different amounts or at different times.
- You may have been given a **different strength of medicine** to the one you usually take. Make sure you know how much you need to take.
- The same medicine can have different names. This means **the label on your discharge medicine may be different** from usual, even if it is the same medicine you have at home. **Do not take both products.**
- If you would like to know more about your medicines, ask your GP to refer you for a **Home Medicines Review**.

Always ask your GP or pharmacist if you are unsure

If you need an interpreter when you visit your GP, phone the Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS) on 13 14 50

Medicine safety every day

- Take your medicines exactly as instructed
- Do not share your medicines with others
- Never take medicine that has been prescribed for someone else
- Store medicines away from heat and damp
- Check with your doctor or pharmacist before you take medicines or health products that are not on your list(s)
- Do not take medicines that are out-of-date. Return them to your pharmacy for safe disposal
- Keep medicines in a safe place where children cannot reach them**

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Your Medicines List

Name

Address

Doctor (GP)

Known Allergies

Hospital pharmacy contact details:

This is a medicines list. It tells you the names of your medicines, what they are for and how to take them.

Bring this list with you when you visit your GP (local doctor), local pharmacist and if you come into hospital. Show it to other health care workers involved in your care.

Keep your medicines list up-to-date.