

## **Make Notes & Take Notes**

Before, during, and after my doctor's visit

**Helpful Steps to Avoid Medication Errors** 

your doctor gives you \_

## **Before My Doctor's Visit**

Date of visit
Doctor's name Address
Phone Reason for this visit
Symptoms/medical problem you are havin
How long have you had this problem or symptoms?Questions you want to ask the doctor abo
this problem or symptoms  List below all of the prescription and non-prescription (OTC)
medicines you are now taking.  (Show this list to you doctor during your visit)  Prescription Medicines
rrescription medicines
Over-the-Counter (nonprescription) Medicines and Vitamins / Minerals, Dietary / Herbal Supplements

## At the Doctor's Office

Record any diagnosis (name of the problem)

Record the name and phone number of any other doctor that you should see about your medical problem  Name Phone
Questions to Ask About
Prescription Medicines
(If my doctor prescribes medicine for me, here are some important questions to ask)
1. What is the name of the medicine and what is it for?
☐ brand name or the ☐ generic name?
2. How and when do I take it—and for how long?
3. What side effects should I expect, and what should I do about them?
4. Should I take this medicine on an □ empty stomach or □ with food? Is it safe to drink alcohol with this medicine □ yes or □ no
5. If it's a once-a-day dose, is it best to take it in the □ morning or □ evening?
6. What foods, drinks, or activities should I avoid while taking this medicine?
7. Will this medicine work safely with any other medicines I am taking? ☐ yes ☐ no

8. When should I expect the medicine to begin to work, and how will I know if it is working?
Are there any tests required with this medicine (for example, to check liver or kidney function)?
9. How should I store this medicine?
10. Is there any written information available about the medicine?  ☐ yes or ☐ no? Is it available in large print or a language other than English? ☐ yes or ☐ no?
After My Doctor's Visit
Call your doctor immediately if you are having any problems with your treatment.
Call your doctor or pharmacist if you think you are having troubling side effects with any medicine prescribed or recommended for you.  Pharmacy
Phone
Record the date and time for any scheduled blood tests, x-rays, or other medical tests ordered by your doctor Test
Phone

Keep up to date
Use 1 sheet for each doctor you visit

Record the date and time of your next

EDUCATE before
YOU MEDICATE
National Council on Patient
Information and Education (NCPIE)

Information and Education (NCP 200-A Monroe Street, Suite 212 Rockville, MD 20840

(301) 340-3940

Testing facility\_\_\_

doctor's visit

www.talkaboutrx.org