

<i>Client:</i>	<i>Date:</i>
<i>Clinician:</i>	

### Safety Tips

- Have a routine for taking each medicine. Make it part of something you do each day, such as brushing your teeth or eating a meal.
- When you go to the hospital or your doctor's office, bring all your current medicines in their original boxes or bottles. If you can't do that, bring an up-to-date list of your medicines.
- Do not stop taking a prescription medicine unless your doctor tells you to. Doing so could make your condition worse.
- Do not share medicines.
- Let your doctor and pharmacist know of any allergies you have.
- Taking prescription medicines with alcohol, street drugs, herbs, supplements, or even some over-the-counter medicines can be harmful. Talk to your doctor or pharmacist before using any of these things while taking a prescription medicine.
- When filling your prescriptions, try using the same pharmacy for all your medicines. If not, let the pharmacist know what medicines you are already on.
- Keep medicines out of the reach of children and pets.
- Do not use medicine that has expired or that doesn't look or smell right. Bring expired or old medicine to your pharmacy for disposal.

### Using Generic Medicines

Medicines have brand names and generic (chemical) names. When a medicine is first made, it is sold only under its brand name. Later, it can be made and sold as a generic. Generic medicines cost less than brand-name medicines and most work just as well. Most people can use the generic medicine instead of the brand-name medicine, unless their doctor says otherwise.

**Online Source:** National Institutes on Health - Senior Health  
[<http://nihseniorhealth.gov/takingmedicines/takingmedicinessafely/01.html>]  
**Online Source:** Food and Drug Administration  
[<http://www.fda.gov/cder/consumerinfo/active12panelEng.htm>]  
**Online Source:** National Institute on Aging  
[<http://www.niapublications.org/engagepages/medicine.asp>]

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### IMPORTANT NOTICE

Contact the on-call nurse if you are experiencing any change in your current health condition.  
For ALL emergencies requiring IMMEDIATE medical attention, call 911.

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