

# Medication Checklist

Medication Name refill # / prescriber / phone	Size, Shape, Color	Dose	Dates			With Food?	Time of Day						Purpose (Indication)	
			Date Start	Date Stop	Date Refill		Dawn	Break feast	Lunch	Dinner	Night	Late		
/ /	Instructions:						Side Effects:							
/ /	Instructions:						Side Effects:							
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Print and copy as needed - organize in binder.

Drug Allergies? \_\_\_\_\_

Vitamins and Supplements? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Aspirin? \_\_\_\_\_

Laxatives? \_\_\_\_\_

Other Over the Counter Meds? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Questions for my provider? \_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### Patients Against Lymphoma

Providing support and evidence-based information  
independent of health industry funding

### Common Causes of Medication Errors

- Drug incorrectly prescribed by doctor
- Drug incorrectly read or prepared by pharmacist
- Wrong drug | Missed dose
- Drug taken at wrong time | Incorrect dose | Doubled dose
- Drug given for longer or shorter durations than intended
- Drugs incorrectly recorded
- Drug taken past expiration date
- Drug storage errors (e.g. not refrigerated, exposed to light/moisture)
- Counterfeit drug (purchased online from unreliable source)
- Poor handwriting; confusion between drugs with similar name, color, or shape
- Misuse of zeroes and decimal points; confusion of metric and other units
- Inappropriate abbreviations
- Inappropriate labeling as a drug is prepared and repackaged into smaller units
- Interruptions that can distract health professionals from their medical tasks.

**TIP:** Ask your physician to include the purpose for the drug (the indication) along with drug on a prescription - to reduce errors caused by drugs with similar names.

*Informed patient and caregiver: The ultimate quality control system!*