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Questions to Ask Your MD, Pharmacist, RN

1. **Do you have my medication history?** –should include current medications, vitamins, supplements and over-the –counter remedies, herbal remedies and nutritional supplements. The MD, RN, Pharmacist should know about existing conditions, allergies, and whether you’ve had a bad reaction to certain medications.
2. **What benefit might I receive from this medication?**
3. **When and how do I take each medication?**
4. **How long before I should start to notice an effect from this medication?**
5. **Possible side effects to be aware of?**
6. **If I experience side effects, what should I do?**
7. **If I have concerns about medication, who can I talk to?**
8. **How long should my trial period on this medication last?**
9. **Do I need to do labs for 1 or more of the medications?**
10. **Do I stop the medication when feeling better?**
11. **Do I take it before, during or after meals?**
12. **Does 3 times a day mean during waking hours or over 24 hrs?**
13. **Can it be crushed instead of taken whole?**
14. **Are there medications, foods, beverages, and activities to avoid?**
15. **Will anything I’m now taking interact with this medication?**
16. **What if I miss a dose?...or take too much?**
17. **Can my special needs be addressed?** [large print, someone read to me or my family, or ____? ____]

1. *Consumer Reports, June, 2008*
2. *www.webmd.com*
3. *www.power2u.org/articles*