



<http://www.womenshealth.gov>

1-800-994-9662

TDD: 1-888-220-5446

How to Read Drug Labels

Medicines, or drugs, come as either prescription or over the counter (OTC). Prescription drugs are used under a doctor's care. OTC drugs can be bought and used without a doctor's

prescription, and you buy them at a drugstore or grocery store. When using any kind of drug, it's really important to read the drug label for instructions. Not following the instructions can hurt your health. Read the label each time you use a new bottle of a drug, just in case there have been changes to it since the last time you used it. See the drug label below and on the next page to know what to look for. If you read the label and still have questions, call your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist for help.

Prescription Drug Label

Pharmacy name and address

Number used by the drugstore to identify this drug for your refills

Person who gets this drug

Instructions about how often and when to take this drug

Name of drug and strength of drug

Number of refills before certain date

Doctor's name

Drugstore phone number

Prescription fill date

Don't use this drug past this date

Local Pharmacy
123 MAIN STREET
ANYTOWN, USA 11111
800-555-5555

DR C. JONES

NO 0060023-08291 DATE 06/23/09

JANE SMITH
456 MAIN STREET ANYTOWN, US 11111

TAKE ONE CAPSULE BY MOUTH THREE TIMES DAILY FOR 10 DAYS UNTIL ALL TAKEN

AMOXICILLIN 500MG CAPSULES

QTY MRG
NO REFILLS - DR. AUTHORIZATION REQUIRED
USE BEFORE 06/23/12
SLF/SLF

Rx ONLY



<http://www.womenshealth.gov>

1-800-994-9662

TDD: 1-888-220-5446

Over-the-Counter (OTC) Drug Label

Therapeutic substance in drug

When not to use this drug, when to stop taking it, when to see a doctor, and possible side effects

More information on how to store the drug

Drug Facts

Active ingredient (in each tablet) Purpose
Chlorpheniramine maleate 2 mg Antihistamine

Uses temporarily relieves these symptoms due to hay fever or other upper respiratory allergies:
 ■ sneezing ■ runny nose ■ itchy, watery eyes
 ■ itchy throat

Warnings
Ask a doctor before use if you have
 ■ glaucoma
 ■ a breathing problem such as emphysema or chronic bronchitis
 ■ trouble urinating due to an enlarged prostate gland

Ask a doctor or pharmacist before use if you are taking tranquilizers or sedatives

When using this product
 ■ You may get drowsy ■ Avoid alcoholic drinks
 ■ Alcohol, sedatives, and tranquilizers may increase drowsiness
 ■ Be careful when driving a motor vehicle or operating machinery
 ■ Excitability may occur, especially in children

If pregnant or breastfeeding, ask a health professional before use.
Keep out of reach of children. In case of overdose, get medical help or contact a Poison Control Center right away.

Directions

Adults and children 12 years and over	Take 2 tablets every 4 to 6 hours; not more than 12 tablets in 24 hours
Children 6 years to under 12 years	Take 1 tablet every 4 to 6 hours; not more than 6 tablets in 24 hours
Children under 6 years	Ask a doctor

Other information Store at 20-25° C (68-77° F)
 ■ Protect from excessive moisture

Inactive ingredients D&C yellow no. 10, lactose, magnesium stearate, microcrystalline cellulose, pregelatinized starch

Product type

Symptoms or diseases the drug treats

Read carefully: how much to take, how often to take it, and when to stop taking it

Other things in the drug, such as colors or flavorings