

How can I use my medicine safely?

- Follow the instructions on the label.
- Know when to take your medicine and how much to take.
- Know the active ingredient in your medicine.
- A written list of your medicines can help you, your doctor and your pharmacist keep track of your medicines.

What is the active ingredient?

- The active ingredient is what makes your medicine work.
- Check the label to make sure that you do not have two or more medicines that look different but have the same active ingredient.
- Contact your doctor or pharmacist if you have more than one medicine with the same active ingredient.

How can I find the active ingredient?

- Ask your doctor or your pharmacist.
- The active ingredient is on the label.
- Keep a record of the active ingredient of your medicine. You can take a photo of your medicine or keep a list of your medicines.

How can I save money on my medicine?

- Medicines can have different names – the name of the active ingredient and the brand name (the original brand name or the generic brand name) given by the manufacturer.
- The generic brand is often cheaper than the original brand medicine even though they have the same active ingredient.
- Your doctor or pharmacist may suggest that you get the generic brand of your medicine to save money.

Can I share my medicine with my family members or friends who are also sick?

- No, your medicine is only for you.
- It may be dangerous to your family member or friend if they take your medicine.

How do I manage my medicines during the Covid-19 pandemic?

- Take your medicines as prescribed by your doctor.
- Make sure you have one month's supply of your prescription medicines.
- If you need to go to hospital, take your medicines or a list of your medicines with you.

Who can I talk to about my medicine?

- Talk to your doctor or your pharmacist. Tell them if you need an interpreter.
- Call the **Medicines Line** on **1300 633 424**. For a free telephone interpreter, call the **Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS)** on **131 450**, say your language and ask to be connected to the Medicines Line.



Active Ingredient

