



Your medicines in hospital

We encourage you to bring all your or your child's medicines (in their original packaging) and medicines list when you come to hospital and/or residential community sites. Medicines include tablets, capsules, liquids, injections and creams etc. They may be prescription, over-the-counter, bought from the supermarket, herbal or natural medicines.

Why should I bring my medicines to hospital?

Bringing your medicines to hospital helps staff to:

- Know all the medicines you are taking
- Make sure you are given the right medicine and dose while you are in hospital



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What will happen with my medicines while I am in hospital?

The staff (doctors, pharmacists and/or nurses/midwives) will check your medicines and ask if you are having any problems with them. You should answer any questions honestly to make sure you are given the safest care.

Once your medicines have been checked, you should have them taken home, or give them to your nurse/midwife to store safely in the locked medicines room until you go home.

Nursing/midwifery staff will always check your name, date of birth, hospital number and any allergies before giving all medicines. They will discuss with you what the medicine is, how much they are giving and when it was last given. Speak up if you have any concerns or questions. The medicine should not be given until any issues are sorted out.

It is very important that you do not take your own medicines or give them to your child while you are in hospital. Your nurse/midwife needs to do this.

What will happen with my medicines when I go home?

When you go home, make sure you have enough medicine, especially if the medicines and/or doses have changed. If you need more medicine, the doctor will give you the prescriptions you need.

Discuss with the pharmacist whether you should get them at the hospital or your local pharmacy. If needed, the pharmacist will give you an up-to-date medicines list. Make sure you understand what medicines you are meant to take, how much and at what times. Speak with your doctor, pharmacist or nurse/midwife if you are not sure.

Always bring your Medicare, pension, concession and/or safety net cards with you to hospital.



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