

## Precautions

- Never share your medication.
- Never take medication from an unlabelled container
- Exercise caution if you are taking a medication that may make you sleepy.
- If this happens DO NOT DRIVE or use tools or machinery.

• Further information is available at the following website:

[RSA Medicine Leaflet.indd \(ndls.ie\)](#)

## How to store your medications

- Keep medications in the containers they were supplied in.
- Please follow any instructions on how to keep your medication which may appear on the label or container e.g. store in the fridge.
- Keep medication out of reach and sight of children.
- Store medication in a dry place, out of direct sunlight or heat

If you do need to contact the hospital. Please quote your name, address, date of birth and hospital/ medical record number (if known.) This helps us identify the correct file

Useful contact details :

St Vincent's University Hospital :

[01 221 4461](tel:012214461)

Medication information :

[www2.hse.ie/conditions/medicines/](http://www2.hse.ie/conditions/medicines/)

Medication list :

[www.safermeds.ie](http://www.safermeds.ie).

Driving & Medication:

[RSA Medicine Leaflet.indd \(ndls.ie\)](#)

Name of Department Pharmacy & Quality

Direct telephone number: (i01) 221 4000

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ST. VINCENT'S  
UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL  
Elm Park

## After you leave Hospital: Medications



We hope that you had a pleasant stay in St. Vincent's University Hospital.

### Before you leave :

Before you leave we will give you your prescription.

This will outline your current medication:

- dose
- frequency
- length of time that you need to take the medication

If you have a medical card, you will need to drop the prescription to your

General Practitioner (G. P.) before obtaining a full supply from your local pharmacy.

- However your pharmacy can give you a few days' supply to avoid any delay , if you cannot get to your GP straight away.

- You should bring the hospital prescription to your usual pharmacy and/or ensure you bring your medical card with you. You must bring the prescription to your GP before this temporary supply runs out.

- Repeat prescriptions will be written by your G. P.

### How do I take my medication ?

- Follow the printed instructions on the label carefully. If this is unclear or differs from what the Doctor has told you, contact your pharmacy.

- Some medicines have special instructions such as whether you should take them before or after food. These instructions will also be on the label.

- After you leave the hospital, your community Pharmacist will be able to give you advice and support.

- Be aware that the medication supplied by your local pharmacy may look different from those in the hospital

- It is a good idea to make a list of your medications (or ask your pharmacy to print one) and update it regularly ,or if your medications change.

You can also download a form on which to make your list at:

[www.safermeds.ie](http://www.safermeds.ie).

### Side effects

What are side effects and do I need to worry about them?

- Side effects are unwanted symptoms which you may have when taking your medication. They differ depending on the medication you are taking. For example, some painkillers can make you constipated.

- Your Doctor or Pharmacist will warn you if there are any important side effects to look out for when taking a new medication.

- Your doctor will balance the risks of side effects against the benefits to you before deciding which medications to prescribe.

- You can also find out more about possible side effects by reading the information leaflet supplied in every box of medicine .

Further information is available at:

[www2.hse.ie/conditions/medicines/](http://www2.hse.ie/conditions/medicines/)

Before you leave the ward , **please read the prescription .**

If unsure about anything, please check with either nurse, pharmacist or doctor **before** you leave