

Medication Tips

- Spend time with the doctor talking about the schedule of giving medicine. Maybe the time between doses is a little flexible, or maybe it has to be exact. Ask what to do if it seems like one dose would be during the night when the child is sleeping.
- Make sure you understand how much medicine to give each time. Also, the best way to give each medicine (by dropper, mixed with food or liquid, or crushed).
- Ask your doctor or pharmacist about possible side effects for each medication your child is taking and what you should do if they occur.
- Keep follow-up appointments. Some medications require blood tests that are important to your child's health. Ask the doctor at the end of each visit when he or she wants to see your child again, and schedule the next appointment.
- Always talk with your child's doctor if you want to make changes in medication. Don't change how much you give or stop medication without a doctor's help.
- Ask your doctor or pharmacist about which over-the-counter medicines are safe to use with your child's epilepsy medicines. Also, check with the pharmacist when filling other prescriptions for your child.
- Ask your doctor how to handle fevers your child may have when sick. Ask about what to do when a child cannot keep medication down.
- Find out what you should do if your child misses a dose of medicine.
- Do not run out of medicine. It is important that anticonvulsants be given steadily. Ask for refills from your pharmacy several days before you will run out. Ask for a new prescription at each doctor visit.