

# Patient Safety Awareness

## Know Your Medications!

**When receiving your medication, make sure that you understand all of the information below:**

- ↗ What did your physician tell you the medication was for?
- ↗ Know the “Brand Name” —the name given to a medication by the manufacturer.
- ↗ Know the “Generic Name”—the chemical name of the medication.
- ↗ What will the medicine do?
- ↗ How did your physician tell you to take the medication?
- ↗ How many times a day?
- ↗ How much to take at one time?
- ↗ How long to take the medicine?
- ↗ How to take the medication (with water, juice, etc.)?
- ↗ When to take the medication (before or after meals)?
- ↗ What did the physician tell you to expect from the medication?
- ↗ What results to look for?
- ↗ What to do about possible side effects?
- ↗ What monitoring will be need to be done?
- ↗ How should you store the medication?
- ↗ How do you refill the medication if necessary?

**Maintain a list of your medications and the times of day you take each medication.**

This drug list and schedule of doses is critical in keeping your medications organized. Ask your pharmacist to review your medication list and schedule.



For more information visit: [www.kidneypatientnews.org](http://www.kidneypatientnews.org)

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