THE SOUTH AFRICAN DEPRESSION AND ANXIETY GROUP



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Questions to ask your Doctor about your medication

- 1. When you see the doctor for the first time what should you ask them about the medication they are giving you?
- 2. What is the name of the medication, and what is it supposed to do?
- 3. How long before you expect to see results?
- 4. What kind of track record in terms of effectiveness does this medication have?
- 5. What are the primary short-term side effects of this medication?
- 6. Does this medication have any long-term side effects that I should be aware of, such as diabetes, sexual side effects, or weight gain?
- 7. Are there ways to minimize these side effects?
- 8. How and when do I take it, and when do I stop taking it?
- 9. What foods, drinks, or other medications should I avoid while taking the prescribed medication?
- 10. Should it be taken with food or on an empty stomach?
- 11. Is it safe to drink alcohol while on this medication?
- 12. How do you monitor this medication? Are there specific tests you run to help monitor this medication?
- 13. What are you prescribing this particular medication over a similar medication?
- 14. How will we know when it's time to stop taking this medication, or if the dose will need to be changed?
- 15. Is it safe for me to continue taking aspirin, Advil, vitamin and/or herbal supplements when taking this medication? Is there something specific I should avoid?
- 16. Is a generic version of this medication available?
- 17. What should I do if I miss a dose of this medication? Take it immediately when I remember, or wait until my next regularly scheduled dose?