

# 10 questions to ask your pharmacist



There is a lot more to your pharmacist's job than counting pills, creating labels and putting them in a bottle for you.

YOUR PHARMACIST CAN help you address any questions or concerns you may have about your prescriptions. When taking prescription drugs, it is important to be informed about what you are putting in your body. When in doubt, ask your pharmacist for advice.

#### Pharmacists are responsible for:

- Reviewing your medication to ensure it's appropriate and safe for you, and verifying that the correct dosages are prescribed for your health condition.
- Screening for potential issues such as drug interactions and allergies, and duplication of treatments.
- Counselling you on what your medication is for, how to take it, and informing you of any side effects it may cause.
- Collaborating with you and other healthcare providers to ensure you're getting the most out of your medication.



**Questions? We're here to help.**

**Phone** 604 419-2000 **Toll-free** 1 877 PAC-BLUE

**Website** [pac.bluecross.ca](http://pac.bluecross.ca)

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1. Is there a generic form of this drug? Can you recommend a cheaper therapeutic alternative?
2. Do you have any written material about my medication?
3. What does this medication do and how long will it take to do this?
4. Where should I store this medication?
5. What do I do if I miss a dose or stop taking my medication?
6. What are the risks and side effects of taking this medication and which should be reported immediately to you or my doctor?
7. Are there foods, drinks or activities I need to avoid while taking this medication?
8. Will this medication interact with over-the-counter medication, herbal products or other prescribed medication?
9. Should I stop taking this medication if I become pregnant? Can I take this medication if I'm breastfeeding?
10. Are there any non-prescription products you can also recommend for my condition?