

How to Get Your Prescription Medicine



A prescription is an order for medicine.

When a doctor advises you to take medication, they will write a prescription. A prescription says:

- + The name of the person who should take the medication
- + Name of the medicine
- + Dosage of the medicine
- + How often you should take it
- + For how many days you should take it

Your doctor may write the prescription on a piece of paper and give it to you, or they may send it electronically to a pharmacy.

Pharmacies are places where you pick up medication that is ordered for you. A pharmacy can be inside a medical clinic or hospital, inside a grocery store or big multi-purpose store, or be its own stand-alone store.



PATIENT NAME: **LAYLA AHMADI**

ADDRESS: **456 MAIN STREET**

ANYTOWN, USA 12345

DIRECTIONS:

METFORMIN 500 MG

DISPENSE: 60

REFILLS: 3

SIGNATURE: Dr. Martha Jones

Make sure that your doctor or medical clinic knows the name and address of the pharmacy you use.

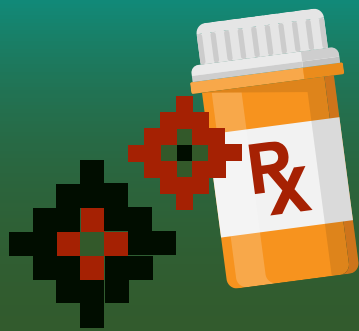
Your doctor or medical clinic will need to know the name of the pharmacy you use so they can order medication for you. When you have found the pharmacy that you want to use, ask pharmacy staff for a business card or write down the name and address of the pharmacy. The next time you are at your doctor's office or medical clinic, provide the name and address of the pharmacy you use and ask for them to add it to your medical records. You can say:

"Here is the name and address of the pharmacy I use."

When you pick up a prescription at your pharmacy, bring with you:

- + Your prescription, if it was written for you on a piece of paper
- + Identification (ID)
- + Insurance card
- + Telephone number and address





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You may have to wait a few minutes to get your prescription.

- + You may have to wait 10-20 minutes at the pharmacy for your prescription to be ready or the pharmacist may ask you to come back later.
- + If you choose to wait at the pharmacy, there are usually chairs for you to sit in while you wait.
- + The pharmacist may call your name to alert you when your prescription is ready. Otherwise, you will need to approach the pharmacist again so they can give you your prescription.



Paying for medication

- + Most medications that a doctor orders should be paid for completely or in part by health insurance, including Medicaid.
- + Sometimes patients will have to pay a small amount called a co-pay.
- + If you do not have health insurance, you can ask your pharmacist if you are eligible for discounts or if there is a less expensive version of the same medication.

