

Your Child's Medicines in Hospital

5 things you can do to help keep your child safe

1. Share information about the medicines that your child takes at home

We need to know what your child usually takes. Tell us about tablets, liquids, injections, creams, ointments, pens, patches, inhalers, nebulas, and eye and ear drops. Include any vaccines, prescription medicines, over-the-counter (OTC) products, herbal products, vitamins, and supplements.

2. Tell us about your child's allergies and any reactions they've had

Hospital staff will always ask about any allergies your child might have, as well as bad reactions that they've had in the past. We will ask the name of the medicine or substance that caused the problem. We will ask what happened, and when it happened.

3. Keep your child's patient identity bracelets on at all times

We use this to help confirm your child's identity at various times during their care in hospital. This includes when we are giving them medication.



4. Do not give any medicines to your child unless staff direct you to do so

In general in hospital, nursing staff will administer your child's medication. This is to make sure they are getting the right medicine at the right dose for them at this time. It is important that your child's nurse, pharmacist and doctor know exactly what medicine your child is getting every day.

5. Call for the nurse if a medication pump beeps

Medicines and other fluids may be given using an intravenous pump, also called an IV pump. Never attempt to turn off the pump yourself. Do not allow any visitors to touch the pump. It can cause the medicine or fluid to be given too fast or too slow, or to stop.