

MEDICATION AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH GUIDE FOR YOUTH 18 AND OLDER



Georgia Department of Human Services
Division of Family and Children Services

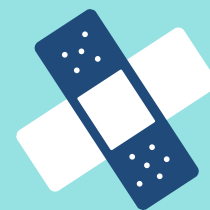
MEDICATION MANAGEMENT

When making decisions about medication, do not be afraid to ask questions. Decisions regarding medications should be made together with your healthcare provider. Below is list of suggested things you should know and do prior to taking medications:

- Name of illness/condition for which medication was prescribed/treatment offered.
- Name of medication/procedure recommended.
- Risks associated with treatment.
- Benefits of treatment.
- Length of time for treatment.
- Alternatives to treatment.
- Ensure the healthcare provider knows your medical history (allergies, pregnancy, etc.).

If you agree to begin medication treatment, the following steps are important:

- Take medications as prescribed. Do not stop medications abruptly or make any changes to your medication regimen without consulting your healthcare provider.
- Develop a daily routine to take medications.
- Be familiar with what to do if a medication is missed or delayed in consuming (these instructions are usually provided by the pharmacy).
- Communicate with your healthcare provider about any concerns regarding your medications.
- Keep record of your medications.
- Keep regularly scheduled appointments with healthcare provider for ongoing monitoring of medications.



MENTAL/BEHAVIORAL PROVIDERS

- Obtain referral for services from primary care provider or care coordinator (Amerigroup). Research healthcare provider to ensure the provider has experience/credentials in mental/behavioral health services that you are seeking.
- Be knowledgeable of how services will be offered by the provider (face to face or telehealth).
- Ensure the healthcare provider is accessible.
- Ensure the healthcare provider is covered under your insurance.
- Communicate to the healthcare provider about any concerns you may have about treatment and/or services.



RESOURCES

- <https://www.fda.gov/consumers/consumer-updates/are-you-taking-medication-prescribed>
- <https://www.fda.gov/drugs/resources-you-drugs/stop-learn-go-tips-talking-your-pharmacist-learn-how-use-medicines-safely>



STRONGER FAMILIES FOR A STRONGER GEORGIA

Please contact us:

Wellness, Programming, Assessment and Consultation (WPAC) Unit:
healthmatters@dhs.ga.gov

© Copyright 2020, Wellness, Programming, Assessment and Consultation Unit, Georgia Division of Family and Children Services.