Generic Instructions for Pain Medicine

Some pain medicine may change the way you think and make judgments. You might not be able to do some things safely. Take medicine as told by your doctor if you or your child has pain. **Do not** take the medicine if there is no pain, unless your doctor told you to.

After you start the medicine, and for 8 hours after you stop, **do not:**

- Drive.
- Use machines.
- Use power tools.
- Sign legal papers.

HOME CARE

- **Do not** drink alcohol while taking pain medicines.
- **Do not** take sleeping pills while taking pain medicines.
- **Do not** take other medicines at the same time as pain medicines, unless your doctor tells you it is okay.

If the pain medicine is a narcotic:

- Use a stool softener if you or your child cannot go to the bathroom (*constipated*). This can happen when taking certain pain medicines.
- Eat more fruits and vegetables when taking the medicine. This may help you or your child go to the bathroom.
- You may get confused when taking your medicine. Write down when you take your medicine.
  - Before taking your next pill(s), look at the last time you took your pill(s).
  - Writing the times down will help you to not take too much (*overdose*).

GET HELP IF:

- The medicine is not helping to make the pain go away.
- You or your child throws up (*vomit*s) and/or has watery poop (*diarrhea*).
- There is belly (*abdominal*) pain that you or your child did not have before.
- You or your child feels dizzy or passes out.
- You feel there are other problems that might be caused by the medicine.

MAKE SURE YOU:

- Understand these instructions.
- Will watch this condition.
- Will get help right away if you or your child is not doing well or gets worse.

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