

# Prescriptions and Refills for Pediatric Hematology Oncology Patients

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## What is a prescription?

A prescription is a written instruction by a doctor or nurse practitioner for medicine to be taken at home. Your child will receive many prescriptions for different medications while they are on treatment. A prescription tells the pharmacy the medicine, the dose, how often to take it and the amount of medicine needed.

### Important

### Tips

- Check your child's medications before coming to your clinic appointment or hospital visit to know if you are running low on medications and will require new prescriptions.
- If you need help understanding the medication instructions, please let your nurse, doctor or pharmacist know.

## What is a Prescription Refill?

There are some medication that your child will need to continue for a while. This means that sometimes you will need to return to the pharmacy to get a refill of that medication without needing a new prescription from your doctor or nurse practitioner.

Sometimes the doctor or nurse practitioner will let the pharmacist know ahead of time if your child will need a refill on a medication. This means that the pharmacist can give your child another supply of medication without a new prescription.

## How do I know if my Child's Medication Needs a Refill?

- ✓ It is important for you to know when your child's medication needs a refill. When there are only a few pills/small amount of medication left, make sure to call your pharmacy to let them know you need more.
- ✓ If your prescription has a refill left (look at the prescription bottle and there should be a spot on the bottle that says "Refills" with the number of refills left.) If the refills section says 0, you will need a new prescription from your team.

### Important Tips about Refills

- If you need new prescriptions let your team know at the start of each appointment. This will give them time to get it ready for you.
- Some families find it helpful to set a reminder on their phone to call the pharmacy a day ahead.

## Calling the Pharmacy for Refills

- ✓ If you have had your prescription filled at a different pharmacy and have refills that you want to pick up at another pharmacy you can do so by letting the pharmacy know where the original prescription is so they can arrange transfer of remaining refills.
- ✓ Please call the pharmacy where you had the prescription filled (the pharmacy number should be on the medication bottle) 24-48 hours before you need the medication and ask them to refill the medication.
- ✓ The pharmacy will give you a time when it will be ready and you can go and pick it up and don't have to wait at the pharmacy.