

NEUROLOGY: MEDICATION TIPS

What do I need to know to help my child?

- Be sure to give your child the medicine as prescribed by your provider. Be sure to contact your child's provider if your child has any side effects from the medicine.
- If your child is unable to swallow pills, ask your provider or pharmacist before crushing or splitting the pill.
- Liquid medicines must be measured with a measuring spoon or syringe, NOT a spoon used for the table.
- Ask what to do if a dose is missed or your child throws up after taking the medicine. Ask how much time to allow between doses.
- Some medicines work at once. Others take time to "build up" an effect. Ask how long it should take for the medicine to start working. Ask what to do if you do not see improvement.
- Tell your provider about any other prescription medicines, over the counter medicines, vitamins, herbal or family remedies. Many things can interfere with medicines working correctly.
- Ask your provider if any foods affect how the medicine works.
- Never leave medicines in extreme hot or cold temperatures. Do not leave extra doses in the car or glove compartment.
- Always carry a list of your child's medicines and doses to each appointment.

What is a medication titration schedule?

- Your child's provider may give you a schedule for you to follow when starting a new medication or tapering off a current medication. This helps to decrease side effects. The medicine name, dosage and date/week should be shown, so that you will know how much medicine to give your child.

- An example is below:

MEDICINE NAME: _____ [Generic] _____ [Brand]
 _____ mg tablet [or liquid formulation]

DATE/WEEK	MORNING DOSE	EVENING DOSE
Week #1:	mg - amount	mg - amount
Week #2:	mg - amount	mg - amount
Week #3:	mg - amount	mg - amount
Week #4:	mg - amount	mg - amount