

Ambulatory Medication Policy

At the OHSU Knight Cancer Institute, we want to provide you with the safest and best care. This includes making sure you know how to take your medications safely and correctly. **We know you may take several medications. It is very important to keep a complete record of all medications and vitamins you take.**

General guidelines for all medications



- Take all your medications as prescribed. Follow the directions on the label. If you do not understand the directions or cannot read them, please call your pharmacy.
- Tell us right away if you want to stop or change your medication. Also tell us if you want to start taking a new or different one.
- Please bring your medications to each appointment at the clinic, or bring a list of them. We will ask you about everything you take, including vitamins and supplements.
- Please tell us if you have changed any medications since your last clinic visit.
- See a regular doctor or other health care provider for your general health. They may also help you with cancer symptoms or help you contact us.

Using your pain medications safely



- Some pain medications can be dangerous. It is very important to take them correctly. Please follow the instructions below.
- Call your doctor or other health care provider before changing how much pain medication you take. Do not take more or take extra doses without calling us.
- Do not drive, use heavy equipment, make important decisions, or drink alcohol while using prescription pain medication.
- If you become pregnant, tell the provider who prescribed your pain medication right away. Also, contact the doctor other health care provider who will take care of you during pregnancy.
- If you have a pain crisis after regular business hours, and your medication is not helping, please call 503-494-9000. Ask the operator to page the oncology doctor on call. The doctor will talk with you. They may suggest you go to the emergency department.

- If your pain is very hard to control, your provider may recommend you visit the Comprehensive Pain Clinic or Palliative Care Service team at OHSU. These providers are experts at helping you manage pain and control your symptoms. They may help you slowly switch to different medications and treatments.
- Please bring any regular medications you need to take during the day to your appointments in the treatment room or your doctor's office.
- Please tell your care team about your medications from home. Let them know when you need to take them.

Federal legal requirements for prescription pain medications



Prescription pain medication is controlled by U.S. laws. The law says that:

- We can mail the medication to your home. Allow extra days for it to come in the mail.
- We can order your pharmacy to fill a prescription for the medication. You or an approved family member can pick it up.
- We cannot give you a refill early. If you run out of prescription pain medication before a refill is due, you must wait until the next refill time.

If your pain medication is stolen, report it to the police right away. The police will give you a police report number. We will ask for this if you contact us for a refill. We cannot prescribe a refill on this medication without a copy of the police report. If your pain medication is stolen again, we cannot refill the prescription at all, even with a police report.



Clinic information to remember

Clinic business hours: Monday-Friday 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Clinic phone number: 503-494-6594

After hours phone number: 503-494-9000

MyChart: www.mychart.com