



About medication

What do you want to talk about?

Arthritis affects you. The disease has mayor consequences for your daily life, work and relationships. Talking about this with your doctor or nurse is not always easy but important. Medication can help you to have less trouble with the disease symptoms in your life. Together, you can look at which medication is available and which one suits you best. We call this Shared Decision Making.

Medication has its advantages and disadvantages. To make the right choice in type of medication, a number of questions are important to discuss: What is arthritis?, What types of medication are there to treat arthritis?, What do we know about medication against arthritis?, Who are you?, and How do you feel about medication? For each question, we have created a conversation aid. This conversation aid is 'About medication' for arthritis. How to use this medication and what to look out for.

How to use this conversation aid?

Below are topics on 'About medication'. Check the boxes of topics you think are important and which you definitely want to discuss. Are topics, that you think are important, not included? Write them down for yourself.



In general

- What is the **name** of the medication?
- What is the **active substance**?
- How does the medication **work**?
- When will I **notice the effect** of the medication?
- Can I **take this medication with my other medication**?
- What does the medication **look like**?



Administration of medication

- Taking** my medication:
- How?
 - How often?
 - Why so much?
 - When?
 - What to watch out for?
 - What should I do if I **forget to take** my medication?



Check-ups and Side effects

- Check-ups** with the doctor for my medication:
- Which ones?
 - How often?
 - Where?
 - What are the main **side effects**?
 - What are possible other **disadvantages** of the medication?



Important

- Can I use the medication in **combination** with:
- Alcohol?
 - Other medication?
 - Driving a car?
 - An operation?
 - Travelling?
 - Vaccination?
 - Becoming / being pregnant or breastfeeding?
 - All food and drinks?
 - Drugs?



Other questions about medication

- Where can I **pick up** the medication?
- How should I **store** the medication?
- Must I **always** keep taking the medication?
- What if the medication **does not work** for me?
- When can I start **tapering off**?
- When should I **stop** taking the medication?



Other topics

- When must or can I **call / sent an e-mail**?
- What **follow-up appointments** are there?
- Will the medication be **reimbursed** by my health insurance company?
-
-
-
-