

## ASK THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS BEFORE TAKING NEW MEDICATIONS:

- What are the brand and generic names of the medicines?
- What is the medicine supposed to do?
- How should I use the medicine?
  - » By mouth?
  - » In my eye or ear?
  - » On the skin?
  - » By inject?
  - » Other?
- How often and at what time should I use the medicine?
- What should I do if I miss a dose?
- When will the medicine begin to work?
- How will I know if the medicine is working and what should I do if it doesn't seem to be working?
- What tests, if any, will be needed once I start taking this medicine?
- What side effects should I watch out for?
  - » How long will they last?
  - » What should I do if they occur?
  - » How can I lessen the side effects?
- What should I avoid while using this medicine?
  - » Driving and operating machinery?
  - » Drinking alcohol?
  - » Eating certain foods?
  - » Taking certain medicines (prescription, over-the-counter, dietary supplements?)
  - » Other precautions?
- How should I store this medicine?
  - » At room temperature?
  - » In the fridge?
  - » Away from sunlight and/or humidity?
  - » Can I store it in another container?

## **ASK THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS BEFORE TAKING NEW MEDICATIONS:**

- Can I get a refill? If so, when?
- Are there any special instructions about how to use this medicine?