



For consumers and carers

Adverse Drug Reaction Reaction Information



An adverse drug reaction is any undesirable or unintended side effect to any medications (or ingredients), vaccines, anaesthetic gases or other agents.

It is important you have a record of any medications you have taken that have caused side effects.

Ensure you are able to identify the medication that caused the reaction as it may be known by more than one name. Every medication has an approved generic name and if it is made by several companies, each company will also give the medication a different brand (trade) name. So each medication will have one generic name, but may have more than one brand name. This can sometimes lead to confusion.

For example: ibuprofen (generic name) is available as Brufen®, Nurofen®, Advil®.

Some tablets may also contain more than one medication e.g. Panadeine Forte® contains paracetamol and codeine.

This document can be made available in alternative formats on request for a person with a disability.

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Level of verification

- P: Patient/carer report only (suspected reaction)
- C: Confirmed by clinician (eg doctor, pharmacist, nurse)
- S: Confirmed by specialist (eg Immunologist).

Example

Medicine	Reaction	Date	Verification
Penicillin	Anaphylaxis	Jan 2024	S (Skin test)

Document ADR and Drug Allergy information in the discharge summary.

NPS MedicineWise: Medicine List and smart phone app nps.org.au/medicinewiseapp

Adverse Drug Reaction and Drug Allergy Record



Patient's name (or addressograph) _____

Medical record number _____

Date of birth ____/____/____

MedicaAlert® membership number _____

Show this information to all healthcare providers treating you (e.g. local GP, hospital doctor, pharmacist, nurse or dentist).

