

7 questions to ask your child's doctor when starting ADHD medication

1. Why are you recommending this type of ADHD medication for my child?

There are two groups of medication for ADHD: stimulants and non-stimulants. Both include multiple drugs. Ask why the prescriber wants to start your child on a certain one.

2. What symptoms will the medication take care of?

When ADHD medication works well, symptoms occur less often and are less intense. Ask the prescriber which symptoms the medication should help with and how.

3. Does this medication cause side effects?

It's important to know what to expect when your child starts ADHD medication. Side effects can vary and often go away on their own after a few days.

4. What does my child need to know about ADHD medication?

The amount and type of information you share depends on your child's age and maturity. Ask the doctor or prescriber for advice on what to talk about.

5. Can taking this medication lead to medication abuse?

Medication misuse is an important topic to talk about with your child's doctor or prescriber. Misuse can lead to abuse. And in rare cases, even addiction.

6. How will I know if the ADHD medication is working?

ADHD meds help to make symptoms less intense. They don't get rid of symptoms altogether. Ask the doctor for ways to tell if the meds are helping.

7. Are there other treatment options to try as well?

You can try other methods in addition to or instead of medication. Behavior therapy is useful for many kids with ADHD. Exercise can be a big help, too.

Understood is not affiliated with any pharmaceutical company.