

# Going home after having been given a medicine that can make you sleepy

If you have been in hospital for just one day or have been to the Emergency Department (Casualty)

This fact sheet is a guide only and is not intended to cover everything. It does not take the place of advice from a doctor, pharmacist or nurse. Ask them if you have any questions about the information below.

You have been given a medicine which makes you sleepy because you:

- > have needed help to relax and have pain relief for a procedure such as a simple operation or changing a dressing
- > needed pain relief
- > had an anaesthetic today.

The medicine given to you was:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

If you are given oxycodone to relieve short-term, acute pain to take home, you will also be given another information sheet about it.

You have been checked for side effects of these medicines while you have been in hospital. They do not last long. However, the medicine may still be having some effect when you go home. For example, you may feel tired.

## Precautions

For your safety for the next 24 hours:

- > Do not drive, ride a bike or operate machinery, including power tools
- > Take care with potentially hazardous situations at home, such as boiling the kettle
- > Do not make important personal or business decisions, or sign legal papers
- > Do not drink alcohol, take sleeping tablets or other medicines that make you sleepy
- > Return home and rest. Make sure a responsible adult stays with you at least until tomorrow

- > If you are given a pain medicine called oxycodone to take home, follow the extra instructions.

If you have further questions or concerns, please call the hospital where you were treated on the number listed below.

Department: \_\_\_\_\_

Working hours: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

After hours: \_\_\_\_\_

Weekends: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

You may also contact:

- > Your GP or pharmacist
- > Healthdirect on 1800 022 222
- > Poisons Information Centre (specialist advice for poisons and overdoses) on 13 11 26

## For more information

Medicines and Technology Programs  
Office of the Chief Pharmacist  
SA Health

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[www.sahealth.sa.gov.au](http://www.sahealth.sa.gov.au)

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