

Reporting side effects of medicines and vaccines

Had a side effect to a medicine or vaccine?

Report it to help make medicines and vaccines safer for everyone.

Why report side effects?

A side effect is an unwanted effect of a medicine or a vaccine. All medicines and vaccines can cause side effects but not everyone gets them.

Reporting side effects helps to ensure medicines and vaccines are used safely.

You can report any side effect that you think might have been caused by a medicine or a vaccine.

How do I report side effects?

Online*	https://pophealth.my.site.com/carmreportnz/s/
Paper	Download a reporting form here: medsafe.govt.nz/safety/report-a-problem.asp Email the completed form to: CARMreport@health.govt.nz Or post it to: Medsafe Ministry of Health 133 Molesworth Street Thorndon Wellington, 6011
Email	CARMreport@health.govt.nz

* Download this presentation for help with completing the online form (PDF, 364KB, 16 pages): medsafe.govt.nz/safety/report-a-problem-presentation.pdf

What must be included in the report?

- Information about the **side effect(s)**.
- The **medicine(s)** or **vaccine(s)** that may have caused the side effect(s).
- **Who** had the side effect(s).
- The **person reporting** the side effect(s).

What happens to my report?

Medsafe enters your report into a secure database.

We regularly review the information in this database to identify possible safety concerns. Find out more at:

medsafe.govt.nz/Consumers/Safety-of-Medicines/Medicines-Safety-and-Pharmacovigilance.asp

Medsafe publishes anonymised information from reports in the Suspected Medicine Adverse Reaction Search:

medsafe.govt.nz/SMARS/Default

We remove identifiable information before publishing.

Where can I find more information on side effects?

Consumer Medicine Information lists possible side effects to each medicine or vaccine:

medsafe.govt.nz/DbSearch/infoSearch

Consumer information leaflets on medicines safety topics:

medsafe.govt.nz/consumers/educational-material.asp

Healthify also has information about medicines: healthify.nz/medicines-a-z

Who can I speak to for more information?

Medsafe cannot provide medical advice or make a diagnosis.

If you have questions about your medicine or vaccine or you are experiencing side effects, please:

- speak to your doctor, pharmacist or nurse
- call Healthline on 0800 611 116
- call 111 for medical emergencies.