

Prescription Labels

When you go to a doctor, for a check-up, or because you are sick, the doctor may decide that you need prescription medicine.

The label on your prescription has important information. This information will be on the label. Some labels may have it in a different order.

The diagram shows a rectangular prescription label with a black border. To the left of the label, numbers 1 through 9 are listed, each with a right-pointing arrow. A long arrow labeled '9' points to the bottom edge of the label. The text on the label is as follows:

- 1 points to: **Main Street Pharmacy** (612) 555-1234
1200 Main Street North, Minneapolis, MN
- 2 points to: Dr. R. Wilson
- 3 points to: **Rx No: 300443** 01/04/2005
- 4 points to: **JOHN JOHNSON**
- 5 points to: Dose: TAKE ONE TABLET BY MOUTH, DAILY.
- 6 points to: **Zocor Tabs** Mfg Merck
- 7 points to: Qty: 30
- 8 points to: REFILLS: 3 BEFORE 12/08/05
- 9 points to the bottom edge of the label.

Number 1 is the name, address and phone number of the pharmacy that filled the prescription. This is from "Main Street Pharmacy".

Number 2 is the name of the doctor. Doctor R. Wilson prescribed this medicine.

Number 3 is the prescription number, which begins with the abbreviation "Rx" or "No". This prescription number is 300443.

Number 4 is the name of the patient. This medicine is for John Johnson. No one else should take this medicine.

Number 5 tells how much medicine to take and when to take it. This may be written after the word "Dose". John should take 1 tablet once a day.

Number 6 is the name of medicine, and the name of the company that manufactured it. This medicine is called "Zocor", and Merck makes it.

Number 7 is the number of tablets. This may be written after the abbreviation "Qty" or the word "Quantity". This prescription is for 30 pills.

Number 8 is the number of refills available. When no refills are available the number will be "0".

Number 9 is the expiration date of the prescription. This may be written after "refill before" or the abbreviation "Exp". This is the last date the pharmacy can refill the prescription.

For more information about OTC medicine labels see **OTC Labels**.

For more information about warning labels see **Warning Labels**.

For more information about the side effects of medicine see **Side Effects**.