

- You have the responsibility to come for your visit prepared with...



- a list of questions
- a list of any changes in your health
- a list of all medications you are taking

--a list of any side effects of your medications

- You have the responsibility to follow doctors' instructions and take medication as directed.
- You have the responsibility to ask questions.
- You have the responsibility to make sure you understand all instructions, including what medications you are to take and how the medication is to be taken.



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This publication was supported by Grant/Cooperative Agreement Number U50/CCU917255-02-04 from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Racial and Ethnic Approaches to Community Health (REACH 2110) Initiative. These concerns are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

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But, I Just Don't Understand!!

Patient to Doctor Communication



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I just don't understand!...

Communicating with your doctors

Visits with doctors and other health care providers can be stressful. **But**, if you are prepared, these visits can be more satisfying, informative and less stressful.

You, the patient...

- share in the responsibility for a good result.
- share in the responsibility for your health care.
- deserve to have your health needs understood and met.
- are an important member of the health care team.

The health care provider, by accepting you as a patient...

- agrees to care for you to the best of his or her ability.
- agrees to a true partnership in your health care.
- must make every effort to communicate with you.
- must keep all information you give him or her confidential.
- must explain all issues regarding your health **in terms you understand.**



Contact your health provider **immediately**, if you notice any changes (such as changes in your eating or sleeping habits).

Remember...

Your rights and responsibilities:



- You have a right to be heard.
- You have a right to be given information about your health in terms you understand.
- You have the right to expect all matters regarding your health care will be kept confidential.
- You have the responsibility to tell your doctors **anything** which may effect your health (no matter how embarrassing).
- You have the responsibility to arrive for your appointments on time.

