

What else must be taken into account when it comes to medication?

- " Only take medication that was prescribed by a doctor or if you have been advised to do so at the pharmacy.
- » The pharmacy team will be happy to answer any questions about medication and explain how to use it.
- » Each industrially produced medicine comes with a package information leaflet that contains information about its use. If the leaflet mentions, for example, a side-effect, this does not mean that you will definitely suffer from this side-effect. Your pharmacy team will be happy to talk to you about the package information leaflet.
- » Most of the medicines manufactured in Germany are industrially produced. In special cases, the pharmacy produces medicine for individual patients.
- » Store medication in such a way that it cannot be accidentally consumed by children.
- » Each pharmaceutical package has a date printed on it; the medication can be used until that date. If that date has expired, dispose of the medication with the household waste. Medication must not be disposed of in a toilet or sink. This also applies to liquid medicines such as cough syrup.



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INFORMATION FOR MIGRANTS

Medication in Germany

Where do you get medication?

Apart from a small number of exceptions, in Germany medication is dispensed by pharmacies; you cannot get it in other shops or from a doctor's surgery. "Drug" is another word for "medication" and they both mean the same thing.



A pharmacy can be identified from the outside **by the red letter A**. A pharmacy is managed by a pharmacist.

Pharmacies offer a **nationwide out-of-hours and emergency service**. However, not every pharmacy is open around the clock. At night, and on Sundays, you can find the nearest open pharmacy at www.aponet.de.

What do the terms "prescription-only" and "pharmacy-only" mean?

There are several types of medication.

You can only get prescription-only medication if you have a prescription from a doctor. Such medication is "prescribed" by a doctor. The doctor fills in a prescription for such medication. Paper prescriptions come in different colours, such as pink.



If you take your prescription to a pharmacy, you will get the medication that was prescribed by the doctor. Prescription-only medication includes medication for high blood pressure and all antibiotics for bacterial infections.

If the pharmacy does not have a medication prescribed by a doctor in stock, the pharmacy can generally obtain the medication for you within a few hours.

Non-prescription medications are available from the pharmacy without a prescription, which means you do not have to see a doctor first. Non-prescription medications include cold remedies and many pain medicines.

Where do you get medication from?

Refugees from Ukraine:

As a rule, medication prescribed by a doctor will be free of charge for you.

Non-prescription medication can be purchased at the pharmacy.

Medication for your children is usually provided free of charge if you have visited a doctor with your child and have been given a prescription.

