Instructor Page
Questions to Encourage "Patient" Inquiry

Reading Prescription Medication Labels for Warnings

These questions should be used <u>after</u> students have talked with a partner about what each label means. These questions are meant to demonstrate that students may not have interpreted the label correctly. (Teachers may make up their own questions.) Discussion should also focus on who might be able to answer questions about medication labels.

May Impair Ability to Drive

1. Does the picture mean anything to you without the words?

2. Would you understand the label if you couldn't read it?

3. What does "impair the ability to drive" mean?

4. Can you drive or operate machinery when you are using this medicine?

Do Not Take Aspirin

1. What are you not supposed to take if you are using this medication?

2. If you get a headache while you are taking this medication, is it safe for you to take an Advil or an Ibuprofen tablet to help your headache? [*No—these products contain aspirin—so do many other common over-the-counter medications, like Aleve, Midol, Pepto-Bismol, Alka-Seltzer, and more. Students should be cautioned to ask a doctor or pharmacist if a medication is compatible with the prescription, since it's difficult to know which ones contain aspirin.*]

3. What does "without knowledge and consent of your physician" mean?

Obtain Medical Advice

1. What does the picture mean to you?

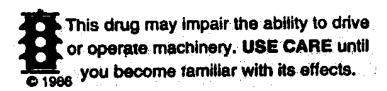2. When are you supposed to call the doctor?

May Cause Drowsiness

1. What are you supposed to be careful of when you take this medication?

2. What is one side effect of this medication?

3. What does "drowsiness" mean?

4. Who can you ask if you don't fully understand the label?

Reading Prescription Medication Labels

Directions: With a partner, talk about what each warning label means. Next, discuss your ideas
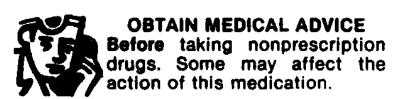with your class and teacher.

1.   This drug may impair the ability to drive
or operate machinery. **USE CARE** until
you become familiar with its effects.
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2.   **DO NOT TAKE ASPIRIN**
OR ASPIRIN CONTAINING PRODUCTS
WITHOUT KNOWLEDGE AND
CONSENT OF YOUR PHYSICIAN

3.   **OBTAIN MEDICAL ADVICE**
Before taking nonprescription
drugs. Some may affect the
action of this medication.

4.   may cause **DROWSINESS**
USE CARE when operating a
car or dangerous machinery