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## **COMMON SIDE EFFECTS OF MEDICATION**

Drowsiness, dizziness when standing up, dry mouth and increased thirst, blurred vision, constipation, increased heart rate, and change in weight. Other problems may include weakness, fatigue, nausea, sleeping problems, headache, skin rashes and sedation.

It's important to tell your doctor about any side effects, you may be able to take another medication that causes fewer side effects. It's also vital that you take your medicine exactly as it is prescribed and that you follow any other doctor's orders. If you have more questions about your medicine, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

### **I'M FEELING BETTER...SHOULD I STOP TAKING MY MEDICATION?**

The fact that you're feeling better can mean several things. First, it can indicate that your medication is working and it is causing you to feel better. Second, it could mean that you're experiencing less stress, that therapy / counseling is helping, or that a difficult situation in your life is improving. Third, it could be a combination of any of these factors. One important thing to remember is that there is a very definite risk that you may feel worse if you stop taking your medication. This risk may cause additional stress, problems with relationships and / or work, or in time may cause severe disability. You may experience more serious symptoms of the illness. It's best to take time to seriously think about whether you want to risk the progress you have made.

Whether to stop taking medication is a question for you and your doctor to discuss. You may want to consult another doctor, but be sure he / she is aware of your diagnosis, specific problems and the history of the problem. Talk with your doctor(s) about how you've been doing; what problems are still bothering you, and any other treatment options.