What to do when an adverse drug reaction occurs

An adverse drug reaction is any unintended side effect to any medication or vaccine.

If you have an adverse reaction to a medication while you are in hospital, the steps you can take to prevent it happening again include:

1. Ask your pharmacist or doctor to fill in the details about the medicine and what happened in a Consumer Adverse Drug Reaction Information Brochure for you. (e.g. penicillin causing a rash)

2. Show this information to all of your health care providers before any new medicine is prescribed for you. (GP, community pharmacist, dentist, hospital doctor, nurse or pharmacist)