

PRESCRIPTION DRUG MISUSE

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO MISUSE PRESCRIPTION DRUGS?



✓
Taking someone else's prescription

Examples: taking a friend's medication or medication not prescribed to you

✓
Taking an old prescription

Example: from a few years ago

✓
Taking more drugs (or more often) or not taking them in the prescribed method/way

Examples: 2 pills instead of 1, every 2 hours instead of 4, or snorting/injecting instead of orally

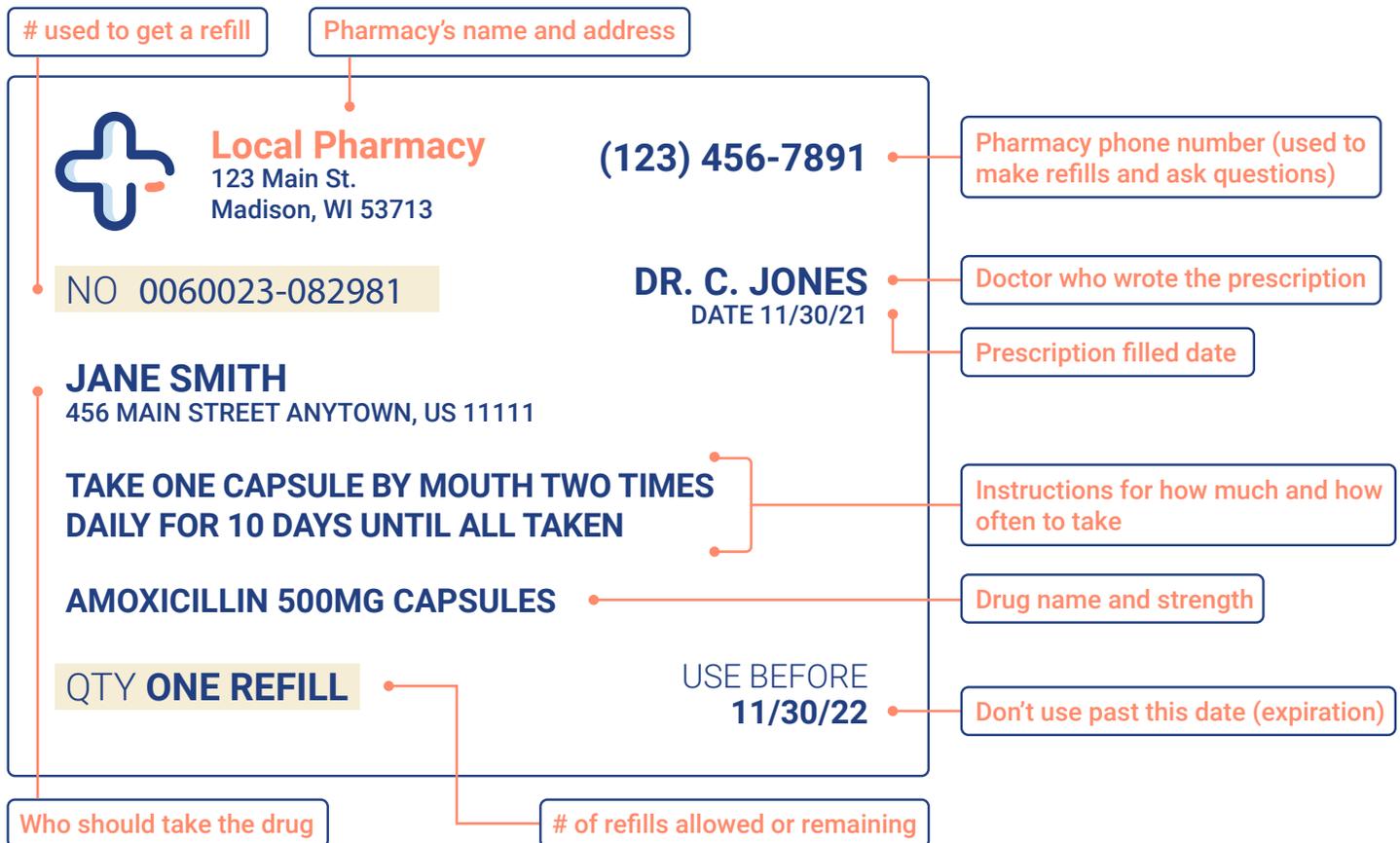
✓
Taking for a different reason than it was prescribed

Examples: using pain medication from dental surgery for shoulder pain or taking medication to feel high

Misusing prescription drugs can have serious consequences for you and your growing baby.

Sometimes misuse can be an accident (example: not understanding how much to take).

Knowing how to read a prescription label can help keep you safe.



NOTE: Not all prescription labels will look like this or have the same information. Please ask your doctor or pharmacist how to read your prescription label if you have any questions.

Adapted from: Arkansas Blue Cross and Blue Shield. 2017. How to read your medication labels

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