

## When can I stop?

You should keep taking your medication until your doctor tells you to stop.



You should keep taking it, even if you feel better.



If you want to stop taking it, talk to your doctor first.



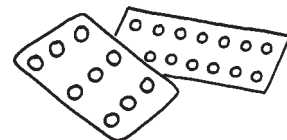
## Important

Some medications do not work well together.

You should always tell your doctor or pharmacist what you are taking.



If your medication looks different it might be a different make.



Alcohol can make you ill if you drink it when you are on medication.



## Advice and Support

If you have any questions or worries about your medication talk to...

your doctor



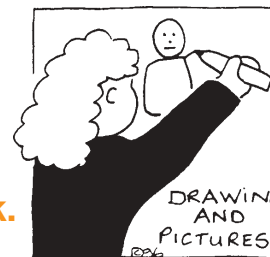
or



the pharmacist at your local chemist

This leaflet was created by Michelle Forster, Betsy Wilkie, Dr Andre Strydom, Caroline Edwards and Dr Ian Hall.

The drawings are by Sally Poole, and from the CHANGE Picture Bank.



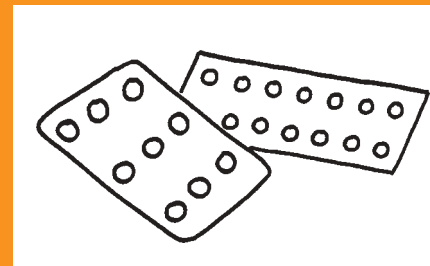
These people helped to make the leaflet easier to read: John Stevens, Jackie Ryan, Linda Doherty and Eamon Maher.



For more information contact The Elfrida Society, telephone: 020 7359 7443 fax: 020 7704 1358 Produced February 2001

# Your medication is called

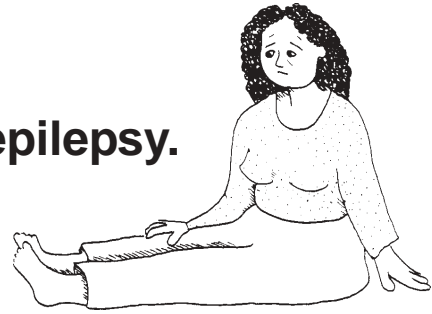
## carbamazepine or Tegretol



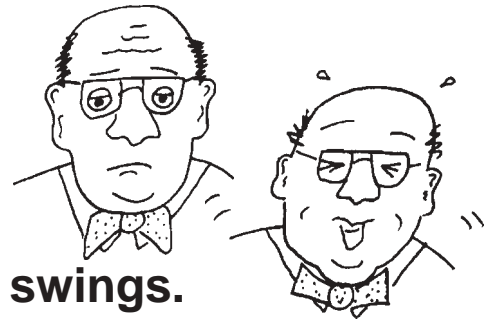
This is not an official manufacturer's patient information leaflet.

## Why am I taking this?

It can help epilepsy.



It can help mood swings.



## How do I take it?

Swallow your tablet with a glass of water.



You might be able to get tablets that you can chew.



You might have a liquid that you should measure.



## When do I take it?

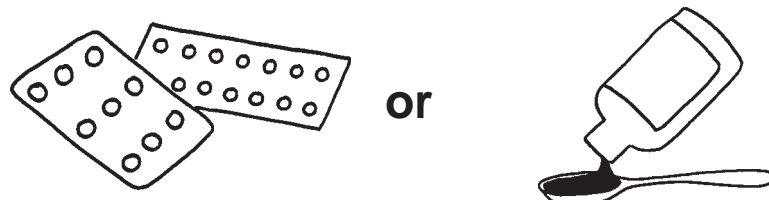
Ask your doctor when to take it.

## How will it make me feel?

If you have epilepsy, this medication can help to control your fits.

If you have mood swings, this medication can make you feel calm.

## What will it look like?

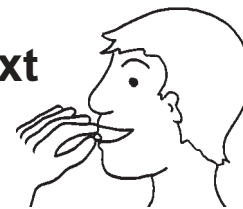


## What if I forget to take it?

Take it as soon as you remember.



If it is nearly time for your next dose, only take one dose.



If you have any problems with taking your medication, you should talk to your doctor straight away.

## What about side effects?

At first, you might have some of these side-effects...

You could feel dizzy

You could feel sick

You could feel sleepy



These should go away after two weeks. If you are worried, talk to your doctor.

### IMPORTANT!

These side-effects are more serious.

things start to look fuzzy

a fever

a rash

unsteady on your feet

If you have any of these, you must talk to your doctor straight away!