

# Dilantin/ Phenytoin

## Parent Information Sheet

### Why it is prescribed

Dilantin/ Phenytoin used to treat seizure disorders and certain nerve and muscle disorders.

### How to give Dilantin

- Dilantin is prescribed only for use by the patient whose name appears on the prescription. Do not allow anyone else to take this medication.
- Administration of Dilantin requires adult supervision at home and at school. Your child should not be expected to remember to take the medication on his/her own. You will need a physician prescription to have the medicine administered at your child's school.
- Give Dilantin exactly as your doctor has prescribed. Give the medicine at the same time every day.
- Do not give the medication more often or in larger doses than what your doctor has ordered. If you have any questions or concerns about the current medication, call your doctor's office.
- Never take a double dose to make up a missed dose.
- If you miss more than one dose contact your doctor's office.
- If your child experiences a seizure while on this medication, please notify the doctor's office.
- Never discontinue your child's medication without first consulting a doctor.

*Your child's doctor is:*

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*The phone number to the office is  
(313) 832-1100 ext. 220.*

### Side Effects

**The most common:** stomach upset, tender or enlarged gums, drowsiness, dizziness

**Rare:** confusion, slurred speech, skin rash, unusual bleeding or bruising. If any of these side effects occur, call your doctor.

### Special Considerations

- Your doctor may require periodic blood test to determine the therapeutic level of Dilantin for your child, and to screen for liver and blood problems.
- Combining Dilantin with other medications may alter their actions or produce unwanted effects. Always tell your doctor about any other drugs you are taking.

### Procedure for getting a prescription

- If you require a prescription refill before your next scheduled appointment, please call the clinical services office at (313) 832-1100 ext. 220.
- Please have your pharmacy phone number available before calling for prescription refills
- The Detroit Institute for Children is not open on weekends or holidays. The clinical services department is open from 8 am till 5 pm Monday through Thursday and 8 am till 12 noon on Friday.
- If you are overdue for a return appointment or have not kept a scheduled appointment, your child's doctor reserves the right not to prescribe the medication.

***Poison Control Center:***

***1-800-764-7661 (1-800-POISON-1)***