Holly Hill
HOSPITAL

Patient Information - Anti-Depressants I

(Anafranil, Elavil, Tofranil, Sinequan, Pamelor, Ludiomil, Norparmin, Vivactil,)

Medication Name ***(with Generic)***	
Expected Benefits	These medications may be used to treat conditions other than those listed. Antidepressants elevate mood, increase physical activity and mental alertness, and improve appetite and sleep patterns for most people who are depressed. It may take one to four weeks before improvement is felt. The medication is often prescribed for six months or more after initial improvement is noticed.
Alternative Treatments	You may discuss these options with your physician: a. No treatment b. Psychotherapy c. Electroconvulsive therapy (ECT) d. Other:_____

Warning	***Suicidality in children and adolescents:*** **Antidepressants increased the risk of suicidal thinking and behavior (suicidality) in short-term studies in children and adolescents with major depressive disorder (MDD) and other psychiatric disorders.** *** ANY SIDE EFFECTS SHOULD BE REPORTED AND DISCUSSED WITH THE DOCTOR, NURSE, AND / OR PHARMACIST.**
Important	It is very important to take your medicine as prescribed and to follow all of your physician's instructions while taking this medicine.

Side Effects *	Any medication may produce unwanted side effects along with the desired results. Some side effects may appear even before the benefit from the medication is seen. If side effects do appear, they usually fade during continued treatment. Examples of side effects which may occur include:		
Frequently	Dry mouth or skin Constipation	Drowsiness Blurred vision	Lightheadedness upon standing abruptly
Occasionally	Difficulty urinating Rapid pulse	Weight gain Headache	Numbness Tingling in hands / feet
Rarely	Temporary confusion Disturbed concentration	Disorientation Gaseous swelling in stomach	Irregular heartbeat Visual hallucinations

Interactions with other meds, natural products	Sometimes medicines interfere with each other. You should tell each doctor or dentist you see about all medications you are taking. It is very important to consult with your physician or pharmacist to see if the other medicines you are taking (including those obtained without a prescription) are compatible with this medicine.
Cautions	• Avoid all alcoholic beverages until your regular daily dose has been established. Therefore, use extreme caution if you decide to drink. Be aware that the effects of both alcohol and this medication may be intensified • Your ability to drive or operate machinery may be temporarily impaired due to possible drowsiness, dizziness, or loss of muscle control. • The eye disease, glaucoma, may be made worse with this medication. The safe use of this medicine during pregnancy or while nursing has not been established. If you plan to become pregnant or suspect that you are, notify your doctor. • Some people may be allergic to these medicines. Symptoms might include skin rashes, itching, sneezing, fever or swelling of the face and tongue. If these symptoms occur, contact your doctor. • ALL MEDICINE SHOULD BE KEPT OUT OF THE REACH OF CHILDREN.

Food-Drug Interaction	These medications slow down digestion and may cause constipation. Increasing fluids with dietary fiber may help prevent constipation. These medications may cause weight gain. Increase in appetite may lead to undesired weight gain.