

Hamilton Health Sciences

# **Medication Information Card**

## Alprazolam

(Al – pra – zoe – lam)

#### Other names for this medication

Xanax®

There are many other names for this medication.

#### How this medication is used

This medication is used to relieve anxiety and feeling of panic. It may also be used to treat and prevent seizures.

#### How to take this medication

Take this medication exactly as directed by your doctor. You should not take more of this medication without talking to your doctor first.

If you miss a dose of this medication, take it as soon as possible. However, if it is almost time for the next dose, skip the missed dose and go back to your regular time. Do not take 2 doses at one time.

If you take this medication regularly, do not stop taking it without checking with your doctor first.

This medication increases the effects of alcohol making you more sleepy, dizzy and lightheaded. Do not drink alcohol such as wine, beer or liquor while taking this medication.

Until you know how this medication makes you feel, do not drive or operate machinery.

### While taking this medication you may notice

- nausea or heartburn
- a change in coordination
- drowsiness
- dizziness

To avoid feeling dizzy, get up slowly when you have been sitting or lying down. If you feel dizzy, sit or lie down until you are no longer dizzy, then get up slowly.

#### Contact your doctor if you notice

- continuing dizziness or drowsiness
- nightmares
- sleeping problems
- skin rash
- unusual excitement or nervousness
- muscle spasms
- slow heartbeat
- shortness of breath
- confusion