Drug You Were Given	Uses	How to take this medication	Common Side Effects	Precautions
 Statins Lovastatin Simvastatin Atorvastatin Rosuvastatin 	Lower "bad" (LDL) cholesterol and fats (triglycerides) by interfering with cholesterol synthesis	Take this medicine at night just before bedtime. Do not take grapefruit juice with this medicine as this may increase the risk of side effects.	Headache, abdominal pain, diarrhea, constipation, nausea, joint pain	Report promptly any unexplained muscle pain, tenderness and weakness. Also report to the doctor any yellowing of the skin or whites of the eyes or dark coloured urine.
□ Resin • Cholestyramine	Lower "bad" (LDL) cholesterol	Take this medicine with food or just before a meal Mix powdered contents thoroughly with 120ml of water or any other beverages. Drink immediately. Rinse the glass with more liquid and drink the rinse liquid. Do not hold the mixture in your mouth for prolonged period. Doing so can cause damage to your teeth over time	Constipation, stomach upset, heartburn, gas and bloating	To help prevent constipation, drink plenty of fluids throughout the day and take lots of fruits and vegetables. Take ALL other medicines (including vitamins and supplements) 1 hour before or 4-6 hours after taking cholestyramine Absorption of vitamin A, D, E, K, folic acid, calcium and iron may be reduced. Supplementation may be required with long-term therapy
FibratesFenofibrateGemfibrozil	Lower "bad" (LDL) cholesterol and fats (triglycerides) and increase "good" (HDL) cholesterol.	Take fenofibrate with food Take gemfibrozil 30 minutes before meals	Abdominal pain, back pain, heartburn, nausea, constipation	Report promptly any unexplained muscle pain, tenderness and weakness. Also report to the doctor any yellowing of the skin or whites of the eyes or dark coloured urine.
□ <u>Nicotinic acid</u> • Niacin (Niaspan®)	Lower "bad" (LDL) cholesterol and fats (triglycerides) and increase "good" (HDL) cholesterol by lowering the body's production of cholesterol and triglycerides.	Take with food	Flushing of the face and neck along with warmth, headache, itching, burning or tingling may occur. Flushing may persist for a few hours. These effects should improve or go away as your body adjusts to the medication. Aspirin may help reduce the flushing. Diarrhea, nausea, dyspepsia, abdominal pain and dizziness	Niacin is available in different formulations. Do not switch other strengths, brands, or forms of niacin with this product. Severe liver problems may occur To lessen the chance of side effects of flushing, avoid alcohol and hot beverages near the time you take niacin Report promptly any unexplained muscle pain, tenderness and weakness. Also report to the doctor any yellowing of the skin or whites of the eyes or dark coloured urine.
Cholesterol Absorption Inhibitors Ezetimibe	Inhibits intestinal absorption of cholesterol	May be taken without regards to meals	Diarrhea , fatigue, joint pain	Take ezetimibe 2 hours before or 4 hours after taking resins Report promptly any unexplained muscle pain, tenderness and weakness. Also report to the doctor any yellowing of the skin or whites of the eyes or dark coloured urine.



If any of the side effects persist or worsen, please notify your doctor or pharmacist. If you experience an allergic reaction to any of these drugs, seek immediate medical attention. Symptoms of an allergy include rash, hives, itching, swelling and difficulty in breathing. If you have any enquiries about your medications, please do not hesitate to contact our friendly pharmacists at:

Khoo Teck Puat

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The information provided in this leaflet is intended to supplement, not as a substitute for, the expertise and judgment of your doctor, pharmacist or any other healthcare professional. Please consult your healthcare provider before using this agent.