

Make Safe Choices – Know Your Medicine!

Prescription and over-the-counter medications alone can impair driving, especially if taken in increased doses. Combining alcohol with medications is even deadlier. Washington State DUI laws and many others apply to drivers impaired by alcohol and illegal drugs, as well as many over-the-counter and prescription medications commonly used to treat allergies, chronic pain, high blood pressure, even the common cold. Make sure you know if you are taking medications that may cause drowsiness and impair driving.

Read the Label

Sedating medications carry warnings such as “may cause drowsiness” or “avoid driving a motor vehicle.”

Ask Your Physician

Find out if you’re taking any prescription medications that cause drowsiness. In many cases, non-sedating alternatives are available.

Consult the Pharmacist

Pharmacist can tell you about the interactions of all medications you are taking, and help you avoid combinations that can impair driving.

Examples of drugs that may impair driving.

Medication

Sedating antihistamines
Antidepressants
Tranquilizers/Sleep medications
Cholesterol-lowering drugs
Anti-vertigo medications
Non-steroid anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs)

Used For:

Allergies
Depression
Anxiety and insomnia
High cholesterol
Motion sickness
Relief of pain and inflammation due to
Conditions such as

Arthritis.