

Telling other members to stop taking prescribed medications is dangerous!

Playing doctor by giving medical advice to another member is dangerous and could cause serious damage to their mental and physical health. Suicide, drastic loss of confidence and psychotic breakdown have all been reported when AA members have taken unqualified advice to stop their prescribed medications..

“An easier softer way”

There have been many AA members who, as they were getting sober, decided to find “an easier softer way” and started taking tranquilisers and other drugs to help them through the process of giving up alcohol. The results were often disastrous and caused them to drink again.

This has led some AA members to campaign strongly against the use of any medications by any member. Even though this may be well – intentioned, it can be most harmful.

Stopping drugs can be life-threatening

Highly experienced specialists in alcohol detoxification frequently give patients modern medications such as antidepressants, anti-convulsive agents, anti-psychotic drugs and drugs to reduce craving. These drugs can play an important role in keeping someone sober long enough to benefit from the AA program. Stopping them without medical supervision can be life-threatening.

Doctors could stop sending patients to AA

Giving medical advice could also cause the persons doctor to decide to not to send any more patients to AA. It could also place the A member giving the advice in a dangerous legal position.

Stick to what we know best

Do please invite a member taking medication to read our pamphlet ***The AA Member – Medications and Other Drugs.*** But it’s most unwise to interfere in the doctor-patient relationship.

We’re at our best when we stick to what we know best.

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