

Davies Pharmacy Capsule Comments:

When drug companies discover a new drug, they do stability studies over two or three years. The longer stability studies, the more it costs them and the longer it takes to get the drug on the market. So most expiry dates are for 2-3 years in the future. But they could be stable for longer. We will put expiry dates on products that have short expiry dates. Check with our pharmacists if you are unsure whether a product is still OK.

When testing new drugs, researchers use the double-blind method where one group of test subjects receives the real drug and the other receives a placebo or "sugar pill". Double blind means that no one (except the pharmacist) knows who is getting what until the study is over. Some people get good results from the placebo because of the intense attention they get during the study.