



Patient Information: Anticoagulation in DVT



Cork Emergency Medicine

<https://EMed.ie>

Anticoagulation Discharge advice

Patient label here please

You have been prescribed an anticoagulant medicine to thin your blood for a suspected or confirmed clot in your leg.

The medicine you have been prescribed can be in an injection or a tablet form.

Please take the medicine as advised by the clinician. It is important that you take the medicine at the same time every day. Forgetting a dose may make you more likely to develop a blood clot which could cause a leg or lung clot. In case of a missed dose, follow advice in the provided alert card, consult your doctor or the hospital.

If you see another healthcare practitioner, such as another doctor, a dentist, or pharmacist, it is very important that you tell them that you are taking an anticoagulant. This is because surgical procedures, including dentistry, could result in excess bleeding and you might need to stop the medicine for a short while before the procedure. Likewise you should never take any additional medicine before confirming: with the practitioner that it will not adversely affect the action of the anticoagulant - this includes any medicines that you may have obtained without a prescription e.g. ibuprofen/Nurofen can increase the risk of bleeding: if taken with an anticoagulant.

Some of the anticoagulants are unsuitable to be taken during pregnancy and breast feeding. If you become pregnant or you plan to become pregnant, tell your doctor straight away. You might need to be switched to a different medicine.

If you are concerned, please contact the
Emergency Department you first attended:

**Mercy University
Hospital**
(021) 4271971

**M-UCC
(St. Mary's
Health
Campus)**
(021) 4926900

CUH
(021) 4920200

**Local Injury Unit
Mallow General
Hospital**
(022) 58506

**Local Injury Unit
Bantry General
Hospital**
(027) 52900





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Remember, your risk of bleeding is higher. So please take into account before participating in activities with a high risk of injury e.g. rugby, skiing, hurling and so on.

At times, despite anticoagulant medicines a clot can get bigger or a piece of the clot can break off and travel to the lung. If your symptoms get worse in the leg or if you develop chest pain, shortness of breath, fainting or collapse, see a doctor or attend an Emergency Department immediately.

The most important side effect of the medicine is bleeding as it thins your blood. If you develop any of these, consult a doctor or attend an Emergency Department immediately:

- Unexpected or uncontrollable bleeding
- Coughing up blood
- Vomiting blood or “coffee ground” vomit
- Black stool or blood in stool
- Blood in urine
- Unstoppable nose bleed
- Unstoppable bleeding from a wound
- Abnormal vaginal bleeding
- Unexplained or severe bruising
- Severe headache
- Collapse or fainting
- Paleness, dizziness or weakness
- A fall or injury to your head or face
- Unexplained swelling or discomfort

Please feel free to ask any questions you might have.

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