



Medications to Avoid Before Surgery

Information for when your doctor tells you to avoid aspirin, aspirin-like products, or other medications or supplements prior to surgery to prevent bleeding problems

To prepare for your surgery or procedure, your doctor has asked you to avoid certain medications, including aspirin and aspirin-like products, or other medications or supplements. This guide lists medicines (by generic and trade names) that you should avoid to prevent bleeding problems. This list is not complete. Other products or supplements may cause bleeding problems. Please review all medicines that you are taking with your doctor.

Important Notes

- Your doctor wants you to stop taking aspirin, aspirin-like products, or non-steroidal anti-inflammatory agents _____ days before your surgery or procedure. You may resume taking these products _____ days after your procedure.
- You may take acetaminophen (Tylenol®) for minor aches and pains.
- If you are unsure whether a medicine is safe to take before the time of your surgery or procedure, please ask your doctor or pharmacist.

Prescription products containing aspirin or other salicylates:

Amigesic	Lortab ASA	Roxiprin
Ascomp with Codeine	Magan	Salflex
Alor	Magsal	salsalate products
Carisoprodol Compound	Mobidin	Salsitab
Darvon Compound	Monogesic	Soma products
diflunisal	Norgesic	Synalgos-DC
Dolobid	Novasal	Talwin Compound
Empirin with Codeine	Orphengesic	Trilisate
Fiornal	Panasol	trisalicylate products
Lobac	Percodan products	Zorprin

Prescription products containing the following nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory agents [brand name(s) in parentheses]:

diclofenac (Voltaren, Cataflam)	meclofenamate (Meclomen)
etodolac (Lodine)	mefenamic acid (Ponstel)
fenoprofen (Nalfon)	nabumetone (Relafen)
flurbiprofen (Ansaid)	naproxen (Naprosyn, Anaprox)
ibuprofen (Motrin)	oxaprozin (Daypro)
indomethacin (Indocin)	piroxicam (Feldene)
ketoprofen (Orudis, Oruvail)	sulindac (Clinoril)
ketorolac (Toradol)	tolmetin (Tolectin)

Other prescription drugs:

celecoxib (Celebrex)	dipyridamole/aspirin (Aggrenox)
cilastazol (Pletal)	rofecoxib (Vioxx)
clopidogrel (Plavix)	valdecoxib (Bextra)
dipyridamole (Persantine)	ticlopidine (Ticlid)

Nonprescription products containing aspirin or salicylates:

Alka-Seltzer products	Bayer products	Halfprin
Anacin	Bufferin	Mobigesic
Arthropan	Doans	Pepto-Bismol
Ascriptin	Ecotrin	Saletto
Aspergum	Empirin	Vanquish
Asprimox	Excedrin products	

Nonprescription products containing nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory agents:

Advil products	Haltran	Midol Extra Strength
Aleve products	ibuprofen products	Motrin
Dristan Sinus	Menadol	naproxen

Coumadin (warfarin)

Ask your doctor how many days BEFORE your surgery to stop taking this drug, and whether you will need bridge therapy with an injectable anticoagulant such as heparin or a low molecular weight heparin (enoxaparin; Lovenox).

Questions?

Your questions are important. Call your doctor or health care provider if you have questions or concerns. UWMC and SCCA Clinic staff are also available to help at any time.

**UWMC Outpatient Pharmacy:
206-598-4363**

**SCCA Pharmacy:
206-288-6500**

Herbal/vitamin supplements:

Natural products, herbal medicinals, and other supplements **should be stopped seven days prior to surgery** and may be resumed when approved by your doctor.

Products that can increase the risk of bleeding associated with surgery include:

agrimony	dandelion	papain
alfalfa	danshen (salvia)	parsley
aniseed	dihydroepiandrosterone (DHEA)	passionflower
arnica	dong quai (angelica)	poplar
artemesia	fenugreek	prickly ash
asa foetida	feverfew	quassia
bochu	fish oil	red clover
bogbean	garlic	sweet clover
bromelains	ginger	sweet woodruff
capsicum	ginkgo	tonka beans
cassio	horse chestnut	turmeric
celery seed	horseradish	vitamin E
chamomile	licorice	wild carrot
Chinese	meadowsweet	wild lettuce
wolfberry	melilot	willow
clove	onion	

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