About Your Blood Thinner - Using Other Medicines

Tell your doctor about every medicine you take. The doctor needs to know about all your medicines, including medicines you were taking before you started taking a blood thinner. Other medicines can change the way your blood thinner works. Your blood thinner can also change the way your other medicines work.

It is very important to talk with your doctor about all the medicines that you take, including other prescription medicines, over-the-counter medicines, vitamins, and herbal products.

Products that contain aspirin may lessen the blood’s ability to form clots and may increase your risk of bleeding when you also are taking a blood thinner. Talk with your doctor about whether or not you should take aspirin and which dose is right for you.

Medicines you get over the counter may also interact with your blood thinner.

Following is a list of some common medicines that you should talk with your doctor or pharmacist about before using.

Pain relievers, cold medicines, or stomach remedies, such as:
- Advil®
- Aleve®
- Alka-Seltzer®
- Excedrin®
- ex-lax®
- Midol®
- Motrin®
- Nuprin®
- Pamprin HB®
- Pepto Bismol®
- Sine-Off®
- Tagamet HB®
- Tylenol®

Vitamins and herbal products, such as:
- Centrum®, One a Day®, or other multivitamins
- Garlic
- Ginkgo biloba
- Green tea

Always tell your doctor about all the medicines you are taking. Tell your doctor when you start taking new medicines, when you stop taking a medicine, and if the amount of medicine you are taking changes.

When you visit your doctor, bring a list of current medicines, over-the-counter drugs—such as aspirin—and any vitamins and herbal products you take.

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