

## About Your Blood Thinner Introduction

Your doctor has prescribed a medicine called a blood thinner to prevent blood clots. Blood clots can put you at risk for heart attack, stroke, and other serious medical problems.



A blood thinner is a kind of drug called an anticoagulant (**an te-ko-AG-u-lent**). “Anti” means against and “coagulant” means to thicken into a gel or solid. Blood

thinner drugs work well when they are used correctly.

Depending on where you receive care, you may be seen by a doctor, nurse, physician's assistant, nurse practitioner, pharmacist, or other health care professional.



The term “doctor” is used here to refer to the person who helps you manage your blood thinner medicine.

You and your doctor will work together as a team to make sure that taking your blood thinner does not stop you from living well and safely.



### Warning!

Tell your doctor if you are pregnant or plan to get pregnant. Many blood thinners can cause birth defects or bleeding that may harm your unborn child.

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