

Northwest Gastroenterology Clinic

Blood-Thinning Agent Instructions

If you take a blood-thinning medication, you will need to stop taking it for a short length of time before your procedure. Stopping the medication will help decrease the risk of bleeding if there are biopsies taken during your procedure.

- **You will need to contact the doctor who prescribed the medication to tell them that you will need to stop this medication prior to your procedure.**
- After the procedure, the doctor performing your procedure will tell you when to restart your medication.

Use the instructions below to determine when to stop taking these medications.

- If you take aspirin, continue this medication unless directed by your doctor.
- If you have any questions, do not see your medication on this list, or forgot to hold this medication for the recommended time, please contact our office.

Anti-Platelet Medications

Medication Brand Name	Medication Generic Name	Instructions
Aggrenox	Dipyridamole-aspirin	Do not take for 3 days before procedure
Brilinta	Ticagrelor	Do not take for 5 days before procedure
Effient	Prasugrel	Do not take for 7 days before procedure
Lovenox	Enoxaparin sodium	Do not take the evening before your procedure
Plavix	Clopidogrel	Do not take for 5 days before procedure
Pletal	Cilostazol	Do not take for 2 days before your procedure

Anti-Thrombotic Medications

Medication Brand Name	Medication Generic Name	Instructions
Coumadin	Warfarin	Continue as prescribed
Eliquis	Apixaban	Do not take for 2 days before procedure
Pradaxa	Dabigatran	Do not take for 2 days before procedure
Xarelto	Rivaroxaban	Do not take for 2 days before procedure



If you have chronic kidney disease and take Eliquis, Pradaxa, or Xarelto, contact your prescribing doctor to discuss the need to stop taking these medications longer than 2 days before your procedure.