

Stopping Medicines Before Your Interventional Cerebral Angiogram

What you need to know

This handout lists medicines you can and cannot take in the days before your interventional cerebral angiogram.

Why do I need to stop taking some of my medicines?

Some medicines may increase your risk of bleeding during your angiogram. You should stop taking these medicines before your procedure.

What should I do?

Read the section “Medicines to Stop Taking” on page 2. See if any of your medicines are on the list of drugs that should be stopped.



Talk with your surgeon before you stop taking any of your prescribed medicines.

If you are taking any of the drugs on the list:

- Talk with your surgeon before you stop taking any prescribed medicines. Make sure you know which medicines to stop and when.
- Tell your PCP that you are having neurosurgery, and that your surgeon has told you to stop taking some of your medicines before the procedure. If you or your PCP have questions, please call the Neurosurgery Clinic at 206.744.9340.
- If you do not stop taking these medicines as your surgeon has instructed, we will need to reschedule your surgery.

Other Instructions

- If you have allergies to any medicines or *contrast* (X-ray dye), you may need to take other medicines before the procedure.
- On the day before your procedure, a nurse will call you to review your medicines and instructions. If needed, a member of your care team will call you with instructions.

Medicines to Stop Taking

Anticoagulant and Anti-Platelet Aggregation Medicines

Drugs are listed alphabetically by their generic name. Common brand names are shown in parentheses.

Check with your surgeon about when to stop taking these medicines before your procedure. Your stop times may differ.

Drug	Usually Stopped
Apixaban (Eliquis)	72 hours (3 days) before
Dabigatran etexilate (Pradaxa)	72 hours (3 days) before
Edoxaban (Savaysa)	72 hours (3 days) before
Enoxaparin (Lovenox)	The night before
Rivaroxaban (Xarelto)	72 hours (3 days) before
Warfarin (Coumadin)	7 days before

Diabetes Medicines

- **Glucophage (Metformin):** Hold this medicine **after** the procedure. Resume your usual doses **48 hours after** the procedure.

Medicines That Are OK to Take

If you take a medicine listed below, you can go ahead with your procedure as planned. But, please check with your surgeon to make sure that it is OK to keep taking your medicine before and after your procedure.

Drugs are listed alphabetically by their generic name. Common brand names are shown in parentheses.

- Aspirin or acetylsalicylic acid
- Celecoxib (Celebrex)
- Clopidogrel (Plavix)
- Contraceptives: Oral, patch, or ring
- Ibuprofen (Advil, Children's Advil, Children's Motrin, Motrin, Nuprin, Rufen)
- Ketorolac tromethamine (Toradol)
- Meloxicam (Mobic)
- Naproxen (Aleve, Anaprox, BC-Naprosyn, Naprelan)
- Prasugrel (Effient)

Questions?

Your questions are important. Call one of the numbers below if you have questions or concerns.

For scheduling, call the Contact Center at 206.744.9340.

To talk with a clinic nurse weekdays from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., call 206.744.9340 and press 2.

After hours and on weekends and holidays, call the Community Care Nurse at 206.744.2500.