

RIVAROXABAN (XARELTO®)

WHAT IS RIVAROXABAN (XARELTO®) ? OR WHY AM I TAKING RIVAROXABAN (Xarelto ®)?

- Rivaroxaban (Xarelto®) is used to prevent blood clots in people who have had recent hip or knee replacement surgery.
- Rivaroxaban (Xarelto®) is prescribed for people with an irregular heartbeat known as non-valvular atrial fibrillation (AF). This medication is used to decrease the risk of stroke.
- Rivaroxaban (Xarelto®) is prescribed for people with a blood clot, sometimes called a DVT or PE
- Rivaroxaban (Xarelto®)

HOW DOES RIVAROXABAN (XARELTO®) WORK?

- Rivaroxaban (Xarelto®) is an anticoagulant. “Anti” means against and “coagulant” means clotting. Sometimes this medication is also called a blood thinner. An anticoagulant helps to prevent clots from forming in the blood.

WHAT ARE THE SIDE EFFECTS OF RIVAROXABAN (XARELTO®)

- Taking rivaroxaban (Xarelto®) may increase the chance you will have a bleeding complications. Minor bruising or bleeding may occur (small bruises, slight gum bleeding when brushing teeth or an occasional nosebleed). Major bleeding is rare, but may be as high as 1 person out of 100 each year.
- Taking rivaroxaban (Xarelto®) may also cause joint or back pain.

WHEN SHOULD I CONTACT MY PHYSICIAN OR GET MEDICAL ATTENTION?

- If you have unexpected bleeding that doesn't stop or improve after about 10 minutes
 - Frequent or long-lasting nosebleeds (more than 10 minutes)
 - Unusual bleeding from the gums
 - Abnormally heavy menstrual bleeding
 - Coughing up more than a teaspoon (5cc) of blood
- Red, pink, or brown urine
- Bright red blood mixed with a bowel movement, or black stools that looks like tar
- Vomit that looks like coffee grounds (black/brown colored) or that is bright red
- New drainage at wound sites
- If you suffer a head injury
- If you are pregnant or breast feeding or you plan on becoming pregnant

CAN I TAKE RIVAROXABAN (XARELTO®) WITH MY OTHER MEDICATIONS?

- It is important to talk with your doctor about all of the other medications that you are taking, including over-the-counter medicines, antibiotics, vitamins, or herbal products.
- You may have an increased risk of bleeding if you take other medication like aspirin or ibuprofen.
- Talk with your doctor before starting any new medications.

HOW SHOULD I TAKE RIVAROXABAN (XARELTO®)

- Take your medication exactly as prescribed
- Avoid grapefruit juice
- FOR HIP OR KNEE REPLACEMENT,
 - Take rivaroxaban (Xarelto®) once daily, at the same time each day
 - Rivaroxaban (Xarelto®) may be taken with or without food
- FOR ATRIAL FIBRILLATION,

- Take rivaroxaban (Xarelto®) once daily **WITH EVENING MEAL**
- FOR DEEP VEIN THROMBOSIS (DVT) OR PULMONARY EMBOLUS (PE)
 - Take rivaroxaban (Xarelto®) twice daily for the first 3 weeks (new DVT or PE), then the revised dose once daily thereafter.

WHAT IF I MISS A DOSE?

- Take your missed dose as soon as you remember on the same day
- Never take two doses together on the same day to make up for a missed dose
- If you travel or leave your home for over 12 hours, be sure you have doses of Rivaroxaban (Xarelto®) available to take (bring these with you when you travel)

CAN I STOP TAKING RIVAROXABAN (XARELTO®)

- Do not stop rivaroxaban (Xarelto®) unless a healthcare provider tells you to stop.
- You may need to stop rivaroxaban (Xarelto®) before any procedure or surgery. Ask your provider for specific instructions on when to stop taking the medication and when to restart.
- If you want to discontinue rivaroxaban (Xarelto®) for any reason, contact your health care provider immediately prior to stopping.
 - Stopping rivaroxaban (Xarelto®) abruptly without switching to another “anticoagulant” may increase your risk of stroke if you have atrial fibrillation.