

Patient Education Literature

We recommend that you read this handout carefully in order to prepare yourself or family members for the proposed procedure. In doing so, you will benefit both the outcome and safety of the procedure. ***If you still have any questions or concerns, we strongly encourage you to contact our office prior to your procedure so that we may clarify any pertinent issues. An educated patient is the best patient.***

Medications That May Inhibit Ability to Clot Blood

When undergoing some procedures or operations, it is important that your blood be able to clot. Many over-the-counter and prescription drugs, in one or several ways, may prevent your blood from properly clotting in a timely fashion. The most common of these medications are the analgesics (medications that minimize pain) and the anti-inflammatory compounds (medications that reduce inflammation or swelling), although there are others as well.

Tylenol is a brand name for acetaminophen. Compounds that contain acetaminophen do NOT (by themselves) affect your ability to clot your blood. Therefore, they are safe to take in the days preceding surgery, provided they do not contain a mixture of any of the compounds listed below. Some medications are a blend of different analgesic or anti-inflammatory compounds. Most over-the-counter cold remedies contain acetaminophen, but read the ingredients label carefully.

The list below contains some of the more common medications that fall into this category. If you have recently (anytime with the past 2 weeks) taken any of these medications, or anything that you believe to be similar, please let us know. Of course there may be other medications not mentioned here; and so if you are in doubt, please call us and inquire.

- * **Alka-Seltzer** (any variety)
- * **Aspirin Compounds** (ingredients may read aspirin or salicylate or acetylsalicylic acid)
 - * Ascriptin
 - * Anacin
 - * Bayer
 - * Bufferin
 - * Doan's Backache Pills
 - * Dristan
 - * Ecotrin
 - * Excedrin
 - * Percodan
- * **Coumadin** (Warfarin)
- * **Diclofenac Compounds**
- * **Voltaren**
- * **Misoprostol**
- * **Diflunisal Compounds**
 - * Dolobid
- * **Etodolac Compounds**
 - * Lodine
- * **Ibuprofen or Ibuprofen-like Compounds**
 - * Motrin
 - * Advil

- * Nuprin
- * Midol IB (one of the types contain ibuprofen; check label)
- * Ocufer
- * Orudis (contains a related compound ketoprofen)
- * Vicoprofen

- * **Indomethacin Compounds**
 - * Indocin
- * **Ketorolac Compounds**
 - * Toradol
 - * Acular
- * **Naproxen Compounds**
 - * Anaprox
 - * Aleve
 - * Synflex
- * **Nabumetone Compounds**
 - * Relafen
- * **Oxaprozin Compounds**
 - * Daypro
- * **Tolmetin Compounds**
 - * Tolectin
- * **Piroxicam Compounds**
 - * Feldene
- * **Sulindac Compounds**
 - * Clinoril
- * **Many of the Pain Relieving Creams/Ointments**
 - * Aspercreme
 - * Bengay
 - * Flexall
- * **Vitamin E Capsules/Tablets**

The arthritis medications in the category of **Cox-2 Inhibitors** are called celecoxib (Celebrex) and rofecoxib (Vioxx). While they do work as analgesic and anti-inflammatory medications, they may not interfere with one's ability to clot the blood.

Other medications that may inhibit your ability to clot blood are those that you may be taking if you see a cardiologist or a vascular surgeon. We need to know if you are on, or have recently taken any of these medications:

- * Baycol (cerivistatin)
- * Fragmin (dalteparin - given by injection by a doctor)
- * Lovenox (enoxaparin - given by injection by a doctor)
- * Persantine (dipyridamole)
- * Plavix (clopidogrel)
- * Ticlid (ticlopidine)
- * Trental (pentoxifylline)

We provide this literature for patients and family members. It is intended to be an educational supplement that highlights some of the important points of what we have previously discussed in the office. Alternative treatments, the purpose of the procedure/surgery, and the points in this handout have been covered in our face-to-face consultation(s).