

Stopping Medicines Before Your Myelogram

What you need to know

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

For your safety, some medicines must be stopped before your myelogram. This is because they may:

- Increase your risk of a seizure during and after your exam
- Increase your risk of bleeding

If you do not stop taking these medicines as advised, we will need to reschedule your exam.

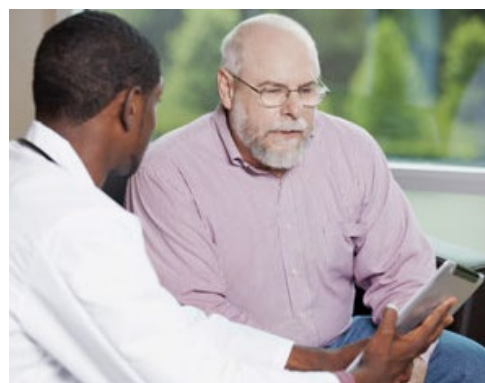
What medicines do I need to stop taking?

Always talk with your primary care provider (PCP) before you stop taking any prescribed medicines.

- **Aspirin** is OK to take, but only if you are not taking any other blood-thinning medicines (*anticoagulants*).
- **Anticoagulants** may need to be stopped up to 14 days before your exam (see list on page 2).
- **Other medicines** (see lists on pages 3 and 4) must be stopped **48 hours before your exam**.

What do I need to do?

Take this handout with you to your appointment with your PCP. Together, you will go over the list of medicines. You will find out which ones you must stop taking before your myelogram, and when you can start taking them again.



Take this handout to your PCP. Ask which medicines you need to stop taking before your myelogram, and to start taking them again.

Anticoagulants (Blood-thinning Medicines)

Generic Name	Brand Name	Hold Time Before Your Exam	May Resume After
Abciximab	Repro	48 hours	6 hours
Apixaban	Eliquis	3 days	6 hours
Argatroban		DTI assay* less than 40 or aPTT** less than 40 sec	4 hours
Aspirin/NSAIDS		May be given, no time restrictions	N/A
Bivalirudin	Angiomax	No hold time for DTI assay* less than 40 or aPTT** less than 40 – reschedule procedure	4 hours
Cangrelor	Kengreal	1 hour	6 hours
Clopidogrel	Plavix	7 days	6 hours
Dabigatran	Pradaxa	5 days	6 hours
Dalteparin	Fragmin	12 hours for <i>prophylactic</i> (preventive) dose 24 hours for treatment dose	24 hours
Desirudin	Iprivask	Ask your PCP	Ask your PCP
Dipyridamole	Persantine	48 hours	24 hours
Dipyridamole/aspirin	Aggrenox	48 hours	24 hours
Edoxaban	Savaysa	48 hours	6 hours
Enoxaparin	Lovenox	12 hours for <i>prophylactic</i> (preventive) dose 24 hours for treatment dose	24 hours
Epitifibatide	Integrelin	8 hours	6 hours
Fondaparinux	Arixtra	72 hours	4 hours
Prasugrel	Effient	7 days	6 hours
Rivaroxaban	Xarelto	3 days	6 hours
Ticagrelor	Brilinta	7 days	6 hours
Ticlopidine	Ticlid	14 days	6 hours
Tinzaparin	Innohep	12 to 24 hours	24 hours
Tirofiban	Aggrastat	8 hours	6 hours
Unfractionated heparin (IV or SQ)		2 to 4 hours, with normal aPTT** (less than 40 sec); no contraindications for SQ heparin dose less than 10,000 units per day	1 hour
Vorapaxar	Zontivity	4 weeks	24 hours
Warfarin	Coumadin	INR must be less than 1.5 at time of procedure while not taking Coumadin; talk with your PCP about your INR level and if it is safe to stop Coumadin	4 hours

* DTI assay = *Direct thrombin inhibitor assay* monitors how anticoagulant medicines are working.

** aPTT = *Activated partial thromboplastin time* measures how long it takes your blood to clot.

Other Medicines

MAO Inhibitors	
Hold for 48 hours before exam and resume 24 hours after exam	
<i>Generic Name</i>	<i>Brand Name(s)</i>
Isocarboxazid	Marplan
Phenelzine	Nardil
Selegiline	Deprenyl, Eldepryl, Emsam, Zelapar
Tranylcypromine	Parnate

Selective Serotonin Reuptake Inhibitors (SSRIs)	
Hold for 48 hours before exam and resume 24 hours after exam	
<i>Generic Name</i>	<i>Brand Name(s)</i>
Citalopram	Celexa
Escitalopram	Lexapro, Lexapro
Fluoxetine	Prozac, Sarafem, Selfemra
Fluvoxamine	Luvox
Paroxetine	Paxil, Pexeva
Sertraline	Zoloft
Vilazodone	Viibryd

Other Antidepressants	
Hold 48 hours before exam and resume 24 hours after exam	
<i>Generic Name</i>	<i>Brand Name(s)</i>
Bupropion	Aplenzin, Budeprion, Buproban, Wellbutrin, Zyban
Buspirone	BuSpar
Desvenlafaxine	Pristiq
Duloxetine	Cymbalta
Maprotiline	Ludiomil
Milnacipran	Savella
Mirtazapine	Remeron
Nefazodone	Serzone
Reboxetine	Edronax, Davadex, Solvex, Vestra
Trazodone	Desyrel, Oleptro
Venlafaxine	Effexor
Vortioxetine	Trintellix

Tricyclic Antidepressants	
Hold for 48 hours before exam and resume 24 hours after exam	
<i>Generic Name</i>	<i>Brand Name(s)</i>
Amitriptyline	Elavil, Endep* (AU, NZ)
Amitriptyline/perphenazine	Entrafon, Triavil
Amoxapine	Asendin
Clomipramine	Anafranil
Desipramine	Norpramin, Pertofrane
Doxepin	Adapin, Sinequan
Imipramine	Janimine, Tofranil
Nortriptyline	Pamelor
Protriptyline	Vivactil
Trimipramine	Surmontil

Phenothiazines	
Hold for 48 hours before exam and resume 24 hours after exam	
<i>Generic Name</i>	<i>Brand Name(s)</i>
Chlorpromazine	Thorazine
Fluphenazine	Prolixin
Mesoridazine	Serentil
Methdilazine	Tacaryl
Perphenazine	Trilafon
Perphenazine/amitriptyline	Entrafon, Triavil
Prochlorperazine	Compazine
Promazine	Sparine
Promethazine	Phenergan, Prozine* (HK)
Promethazine/meperidine	Mepergan
Thioridazine	Mellaril
Trifluoperazine	Stelazine
Trimeprazine	Vallergan, Temaril* (no longer used in U.S., but used in other countries under other brand names)

* Brand names used in countries outside the U.S.

Amphetamines

Hold 48 hours before exam and resume 24 hours after exam

<i>Generic Name</i>	<i>Brand Name(s)</i>
Dextroamphetamine	Dexedrine
Dextroamphetamine/amphetamine	Adderall, Biphedamine, Obetrol
Lisdexamfetamine	Vyvanse
Methamphetamine	Desoxyn
Methylphenidate	Ritalin

Antipsychotics

Hold 48 hours before exam and resume 24 hours after exam

<i>Generic Name</i>	<i>Brand Name(s)</i>
Aripiprazole	Abilify
Clozapine	Clozaril, FazaClo
Droperidol	Inapsine
Droperidol/fentanyl	Innovar
Haloperidol	Haldol, Haldol Decanoate
Iloperidone	Fanapt
Lithium	Eskalith, Lithobid (old brand names: Carbolith, Duralith, Lithane)
Loxapine	Loxitane
Molindone	Moban
Olanzapine	Zyprexa, Zydys
Paliperidone	Invega, Invega Sustenna
Pimozide	Orap
Quetiapine	Seroquel
Risperidone	Risperdal
Thiothixene	Navane
Ziprasidone	Geodon

Muscle Relaxants

Hold for 48 hours before exam and resume 24 hours after exam

<i>Generic Name</i>	<i>Brand Name(s)</i>
Baclofen	Gablofen, Lioresal
Carisoprodol	Soma
Cyclobenzaprine	Flexeril
Methocarbamol	Robaxin
Tizanidine	Zanaflex

Opioid Pain Medicines

Hold for 48 hours before exam and resume 24 hours after exam

<i>Generic Name</i>	<i>Brand Name(s)</i>
Tramadol	Ultram

Alzheimer Medicines

Hold for 48 hours before exam and resume 24 hours after exam

<i>Generic Name</i>	<i>Brand Name(s)</i>
Donepezil	Aricept
Galantamine	Razadyne
Memantine	Namenda
Rivastigmine	Exelon

Antiemetics

Hold for 48 hours before exam and resume 24 hours after exam

<i>Generic Name</i>	<i>Brand Name(s)</i>
Metoclopramide	Reglan
Ondansetron	Zofran

Questions?

Your questions are important. Call your doctor or healthcare provider if you have questions or concerns.