



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 |
| Eptifibatide | 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 |
| Tranlycypromine | 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 | Pheneragan, 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, Biphphetamine, 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.