

WARFARIN

Brand Names

- Coumadin
- Jantoven

Warning

- This drug may cause very bad and sometimes deadly bleeding. Talk with the doctor.
- Call your doctor right away if you have any signs of bleeding problems, like bruising; black, tarry, or bloody stools; bleeding gums; blood in the urine; coughing up blood; cuts that take a long time to stop bleeding; feel dizzy; feeling very tired or weak; nosebleeds; pain or swelling; throwing up blood or throw up that looks like coffee grounds; or very bad headache.
- Call your doctor right away if you have vaginal bleeding that is not normal or very heavy periods (menstrual bleeding).
- You will need to have your blood work (PT/INR) checked while you take this drug. This is important to make sure the drug works right and to check your risk of bleeding. Have your PT/INR checked as you have been told by your doctor or other health care provider. If you are not sure when you need to have your PT/INR checked, call your doctor or other health care provider.
- Your diet and certain drugs may affect your PT/INR level. Talk with your doctor.
- Avoid actions or sports that may raise the chance of injury or bleeding.

What is this drug used for?

- It is used to treat blood clots.
- It is used to thin the blood so that clots will not form.
- It is used to lower the chance of heart attack, stroke, and death in some people.

What do I need to tell my doctor BEFORE I take this drug?

- If you have an allergy to warfarin or any other part of this drug.
- If you are allergic to any drugs like this one, any other drugs, foods, or other substances. Tell your doctor about the allergy and what signs you had, like rash; hives; itching; shortness of breath; wheezing; cough; swelling of face, lips, tongue, or throat; or any other signs.
- If you have any of these health problems: Blood vessel problems like, aneurysm or dissecting aorta; bleeding problems; bleeding in the brain; active ulcer; bleeding of the stomach, bowel, urinary tract, genitals, or respiratory tract; blood problems; heart infection; low platelet count; pericarditis, recent surgery of the eye, brain, or spine; or very high blood pressure.
- If you have any of these health problems: A certain health problem called pre-eclampsia, seizures during pregnancy (eclampsia), induction of labor, or threatened spontaneous abortion.
- If you are having surgery, talk with your doctor.

- If you will be getting spinal anesthesia or a spinal treatment.
- If you have had spinal anesthesia, surgery, or any spinal care, talk with your doctor.
- If you know that you will not take the drug as you have been told.
- If you know that you will not take the drug or have your blood work (PT/INR) checked as you have been told.
- If you are pregnant.
- This is not a list of all drugs or health problems that interact with this drug.
- Tell your doctor and pharmacist about all of your drugs (prescription or OTC, natural products, vitamins) and health problems. You must check to make sure that it is safe for you to take this drug with all of your drugs and health problems. Do not start, stop, or change the dose of any drug without checking with your doctor.

What are some things I need to know or do while I take this drug?

- Tell all of your health care providers that you take this drug. This includes your doctors, nurses, pharmacists, and dentists.
 - Use care to prevent injury and avoid falls or crashes.
 - If you fall or hurt yourself, or if you hit your head, call your doctor right away. Talk with your doctor even if you feel fine.
 - You may bleed more easily. Be careful and avoid injury. Use a soft toothbrush and an electric razor.
 - If you drink grapefruit juice or eat grapefruit often, talk with your doctor.
 - Talk with your doctor before using products that have aspirin, blood thinners, garlic, ginseng, ginkgo, ibuprofen or like products, pain drugs, or vitamin E.
 - Certain foods can affect your PT/INR levels. Follow the diet plan that your doctor or other health care provider told you about.
 - Talk with your doctor about the amount of vitamin K in your diet. Vitamin K may change how this drug works. You should not avoid foods with vitamin K, as they are generally healthy and should be eaten in abundance. Such foods include fruits and vegetables. If you are planning a big change in your diet, please inform your “coumadin manager” beforehand.
 - Talk with your doctor before taking multivitamins, natural products, and diet aids. These may have vitamin K in them.
 - Have patient safety card with you at all times.
 - Call your doctor right away if you have diarrhea, a fever, or an infection.
 - If you start or stop smoking, talk with your doctor. How much drug you take may need to be changed.
 - If you are of Asian descent, use this drug with care. You could have more side effects.
 - If you are 60 or older, use this drug with care. You could have more side effects.
 - A very bad and sometimes deadly health problem involving the skin (calciphylaxis) has happened with this drug. This has happened in people with and without very bad kidney problems. Talk with the doctor.
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- This drug may cause harm to the unborn baby if you take it while you are pregnant.

- If you are able to get pregnant, a pregnancy test will be done to show that you are NOT pregnant before starting this drug. Talk with your doctor.
- Use birth control that you can trust to prevent pregnancy while taking this drug and for at least 1 month after stopping this drug.
- If you get pregnant while taking this drug or within 1 month after your last dose, call your doctor right away.

Tell your doctor if you are breast-feeding. You will need to talk about any risks to your baby.

What are some side effects that I need to call my doctor about right away?

- **WARNING/CAUTION:** Even though it may be rare, some people may have very bad and sometimes deadly side effects when taking a drug. Tell your doctor or get medical help right away if you have any of the following signs or symptoms that may be related to a very bad side effect:
- Signs of an allergic reaction, like rash; hives; itching; red, swollen, blistered, or peeling skin with or without fever; wheezing; tightness in the chest or throat; trouble breathing or talking; unusual hoarseness; or swelling of the mouth, face, lips, tongue, or throat.
- Weakness on 1 side of the body, trouble speaking or thinking, change in balance, or blurred eyesight.
- Chest pain.
- Very bad dizziness or passing out.
- Swelling, warmth, numbness, change of color, or pain in a leg or arm.
- Very bad headache.
- Feeling very tired or weak.
- Swelling.
- Change in skin color to black or purple.
- Death of skin tissue may rarely happen. This can lead to loss of the body part (amputation). Call your doctor right away if you have pain, color, or temperature change in any part of the body.

What are some other side effects of this drug?

- All drugs may cause side effects. However, many people have no side effects or only have minor side effects. Call your doctor or get medical help if you have any side effects that bother you or do not go away.
- These are not all of the side effects that may occur. If you have questions about side effects, call your doctor. Call your doctor for medical advice about side effects.
- You may report side effects to your national health agency.

How is this drug best taken?

- Use this drug as ordered by your doctor. Read all information given to you. Follow all instructions closely.
- **All products:**
- Use this drug exactly as you have been told, even if you feel well. This is important for the drug to work right and to lower the risk of bleeding.
- Take this drug at the same time of day.
- To gain the most benefit, do not miss doses.

What do I do if I miss a dose?

- **Tablet:**
- Take a missed dose as soon as you think about it on the same day you missed the dose.
- If it is close to the time for your next dose, skip the missed dose and go back to your normal time.
- Do not take 2 doses at the same time or extra doses.
- Do not take more than 1 dose of this drug in the same day.

How do I store and/or throw out this drug?

- **Tablet:**
- Store at room temperature.
- Store in a dry place. Do not store in a bathroom.
- Protect from light.
- Keep all drugs in a safe place. Keep all drugs out of the reach of children and pets.
- Check with your pharmacist about how to throw out unused drugs.

General drug facts

- If your symptoms or health problems do not get better or if they become worse, call your doctor.
- Do not share your drugs with others and do not take anyone else's drugs.
- Keep a list of all your drugs (prescription, natural products, vitamins, OTC) with you. Give this list to your doctor.
- Talk with the doctor before starting any new drug, including prescription or OTC, natural products, or vitamins.
- Some drugs may have another patient information leaflet. If you have any questions about this drug, please talk with your doctor, nurse, pharmacist, or other health care provider.

If you think there has been an overdose, call your poison control center or get medical care right away. Be ready to tell or show what was taken, how much, and when it happened