



Pradaxa[®] (dabigatran)

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How long does it take for Pradaxa[®] (dabigatran) to work?

- It begins to reduce blood clotting within a few hours after taking the first dose.
- If you stop taking Pradaxa[®] (dabigatran), its effect on clotting begins to wear off within 24 hours for most people.



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How should I take my Pradaxa[®] (dabigatran)?

Pradaxa[®] (dabigatran) capsules come in a bottle or in a blister package.

When it is time to take your dose:

- Remove only your prescribed dose from your open bottle or blister package.
- Tightly close the bottle right away after removing your dose.
- Do not put the pills in pillboxes or organizers. Keep it in the original bottle or blister package.
- Swallow Pradaxa[®] (dabigatran) whole, do not break, crush or chew the capsule. Do not open to sprinkle the medicine inside or food or drinks.
- You can take Pradaxa[®] (dabigatran) with or without food.
- After you open the bottle, the medicine must be used within 4 months. If you do not finish the bottle within 4 months it must be safely thrown away. Then you need to start a new bottle.



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What is the proper dose of Pradaxa[®] (dabigatran) ?

- Pradaxa[®] (dabigatran) comes in doses of 75 mg or 150 mg., which are taken twice a day.
- Your doctor will decide which dose is right for you.



What should I do if I miss a dose of Pradaxa® (dabigatran)?

- Try to never miss a dose of your anticoagulant. Missing a dose could put you at a higher risk for clotting. If you do miss a dose:
 - ✓ If it is closer to the time for your **MISSED** dose, take the dose as soon as you can.
 - ✓ If it is closer to the time for your **NEXT SCHEDULED** dose, skip the missed dose and take the next one as scheduled.

Notify your anticoagulation provider if you have any further questions

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When do I call 911 or go to the Emergency Room ?

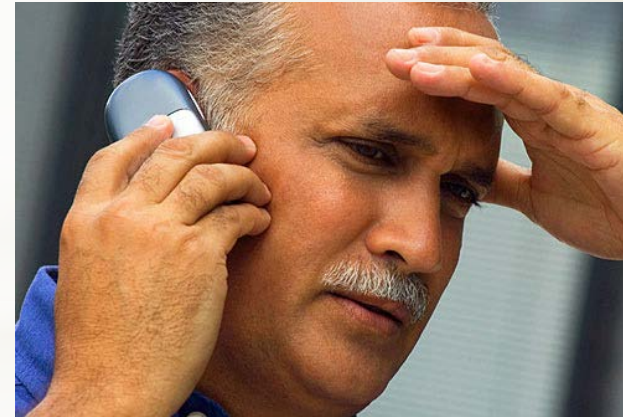


- If you experience any of the following signs and symptoms of bleeding:**
 - Bleeding that is severe or bleeding that you cannot control
 - Pink or brown urine
 - Red or black stools (that look like tar)
 - Coughing up blood or blood clots
 - Vomiting up blood or if your vomit looks like “coffee grounds”
- If you experience any of the following signs and symptoms of a stroke:**
 - Dizziness, sudden loss of vision, or sudden severe headache
 - Numbness or weakness in any limb
 - Difficulty speaking or slurred speech
 - Drooping on one side of your face
- If you experience any of the following signs and symptoms of blood clots:**
 - Sudden severe shortness of breath, chest pain
 - Swelling, redness, heat, or pain in any limb

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When do I call my anticoagulation provider ?

- ✓ Changes in prescription or over the counter medications or dietary supplements.
- ✓ Changes in your health and/or if you become pregnant.
- ✓ Planned procedures or surgeries.
- ✓ Changes in contact information.
- ✓ Need for refills for your anticoagulant.
- ✓ Questions about your anticoagulants.



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Tips to remember to take your medications

1. Set your alarm on your watch, clock, phone or computer to remind you:
 - To take your medications
2. Put your pills into pillboxes. Separate the boxes into colors to identify them to take by morning, lunch, and evening medications
3. Take your medications when brushing your teeth in the morning and evening
4. Take your medications with morning coffee or vitamins
5. Take your medications during a favorite morning and evening TV show
6. Involve others to witness you taking the pills or to administer the medications
7. Place notes or other reminders in prominent places, such as on the bedside table or bathroom mirror
8. Wear an alarm watch that rings when it is time to take the pills.



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Smart Technology to remind you to take your medication

1. Set up a Web Based System reminder
2. Setup an online medical app or pill reminder on your smartphone, tablet, iPod, iPad or computer to remind you:
 - To take your medications
 - To get your blood drawn
 - To remind you of your doctor's appointments
3. "Smart" Medication Dispensers. These are high tech pill bottle covers that can be programmed to flash or sound an alarm when its time for the patient to take the medications.
4. Set up voice reminder systems which sends reminders via voice, text and email.

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[ON-LINE Resources for patients](#)

Learn more about [Coumadin® \(warfarin\)](#),

www.coumadin.com

Learn more about [Xarelto® \(rivaroxaban\)](#)

www.xarelto.com

Learn more about [Pradaxa® \(dabigatran\)](#),

www.pradaxa.com

Learn more about [Eliquis® \(apixaban\)](#),

www.eliquis.com

Learn more about [Savaysa® \(edoxaban\)](#)

Coming soon

American Heart Association (AHA)

<http://www.heart.org>

American Heart Association(AHA) Patients Guide to taking Warfarin.

<http://www.heart.org/HEARTORG>

American Venous Forum(AVF)

<http://www.veinform.org/>

APS Foundation of America (Anti phospholipid Antibody Syndrome)

<http://www.apsfa.org/>

American Society of Hematology (ASH)

<http://www.hematology.org/Patients/>

U.S. Med line Plus , Information on health conditions, and more from the US National Library of Medicine and the National Institutes of Health.

<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/>

The National Alliance for Thrombosis and Thrombophilia (NATT)

<http://www.stoptheclot.org>

Vascular Disease Foundation

<http://www.vascularfoundation.org>

AHRQ (Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality) Patient Education

<http://www.ahrq.gov/patients>

<http://www.healthcare411/video>

Thrombophilia Awareness Project

<http://www.fvleiden.org>

Vascular Disease Foundation

<http://www.vascularweb.org>

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Industry Sponsored Resources for patients**

Learn more about [Coumadin® \(warfarin\)](#),
 Learn more about [Xarelto® \(rivaroxaban\)](#)
 Learn more about [Pradaxa® \(dabigatran\)](#),
 Learn more about [Eliquis® \(apixaban\)](#),
 Learn more about [Savaysa® \(edoxaban\)](#)

www.coumadin.com
www.xarelto.com
www.pradaxa.com
www.eliquis.com
Coming soon

Fibs or Facts

www.fibsofacts.com

Stop Afib

www.stopafib.org

What is Afib?

www.youtube.com

Atrial Fibrillation

www.healthline.com

Health line Plus

www.nlm.nih.gov

Afib Facts on Pinterest

www.pinterest.com

*****The links listed above were developed by pharmaceutical companies, device companies and other companies in the anticoagulation industry.***

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