



Patient & Family Guide
2019

Ticagrelor



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Ticagrelor

Why do I need this medicine?

This medicine is used along with low dose Aspirin[®] to lower your risk of having a heart attack. If you have had a stent put in, this medicine also prevents blood clots from forming within the stent. The brand name is Brilinta[®].

When should I NOT take this medicine?

- If you have a current bleeding problem, or had a recent bleeding problem, such as bleeding from a stomach ulcer.
- If you have severe liver disease.

How do I take and store this medicine?

- Take ticagrelor twice a day around the same time, about 12 hours apart. For example, take it at 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. every day.
- Take this medicine exactly as your cardiologist (heart doctor) ordered.
- You will need to take ticagrelor twice a day for 12 months (one year).
- If you have had a stent put in, stopping your ticagrelor early may increase your risk of a heart attack.
- Store ticagrelor at room temperature.
- Keep all medicine out of the reach of children.

What if I forget a dose?

- Take your next dose at its scheduled time.
- Do not take 2 doses at the same time.

Drugs and foods to stay away from

- Ask your family health care provider before taking any other medicine, including over-the-counter products.
- Check with your family health care provider before taking any ASAs (Aspirin®), or anti-inflammatory medicine such as ibuprofen (Advil®).
- If you have had a stent put in, you will continue to take a low dose Aspirin® while you are taking ticagrelor.
- Do not take more than 100 mg of Aspirin® per day because it may affect how well ticagrelor works.

Warnings

- If you are pregnant or breastfeeding, talk to your cardiologist before taking this medicine.
- You may need to stop taking ticagrelor 5-7 days before any surgery or dental work. Check with your cardiologist before you stop taking ticagrelor.

What are your questions?

Please ask. We are here to help you.

Side effects

Call your family health care provider right away if you have:

- Shortness of breath that is new or unexpected.
- Blood in your urine (pee), or in a bowel movement (poop) (black, looks like tar).
- Blood in your vomit, or your vomit looks like coffee grounds.

If you have problems with these less serious side effects, talk with your family health care provider:

- Headache, dizziness, abdominal pain, diarrhea, nausea, or vomiting.
- Itching, a tingling feeling, fatigue, or muscle weakness.

If you have other side effects that you think are caused by this medicine, tell your family health care provider.

Looking for more health information?

Find this pamphlet and all our patient resources here: <http://library.nshealth.ca/PatientGuides>

Contact your local public library for books, videos, magazines, and other resources.

For more information, go to <http://library.novascotia.ca>

Connect with a registered nurse in Nova Scotia any time: call 811 or visit <https://811.novascotia.ca>

Learn about other programs and services in your community: call 211 or visit <http://ns.211.ca>

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The information is not intended to be and does not constitute health care or medical advice.

If you have any questions, please ask your health care provider.

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The information in this pamphlet is to be updated every 3 years or as needed.