
Department of Cardiology/Pharmacy

Clopidogrel Plavix ®

Action

Clopidogrel helps to stop blood clots. It lowers the risk of you having a heart attack or stroke. It is usually given to people:

- Who have already had a heart attack.
- Who have already had a stroke.
- Who have angina.
- Who have problems with their blood circulation that could lead to a heart attack or stroke.

Taking your clopidogrel

The usual dose of clopidogrel is one tablet once a day in the morning.

- Some patients take clopidogrel alone but some patients take clopidogrel **and** aspirin. Follow your doctor's advice about taking clopidogrel with aspirin.
- Some patients take Clopidogrel all the time but some patients only take a short course. Follow your doctor's advice. Do not stop taking it unless your doctor tells you to.

Problems to watch for

- You might get side effects like headache, feeling sick, indigestion and 'flu' symptoms.
- Tell the doctor if you notice any signs of bleeding like nose bleeds or bruising of your skin.
- Tell the doctor **before** you take clopidogrel if you have:
 - Liver disease
 - Stomach ulcers
- Tell the doctor if you have any unusual reaction to clopidogrel.
- Always tell a doctor, dentist who treats you that you take clopidogrel.
- Always tell the pharmacist you take clopidogrel before you buy any medicines from the chemist shop.
- Women who are pregnant or breast feeding should talk to the doctor before taking clopidogrel. The doctor will want to discuss the risks and benefits of taking clopidogrel with you.



We are currently working towards a smoke-free site. Smoking is only permitted in the designated smoking areas.

For advice and support in quitting, contact your GP or the free NHS Stop Smoking helpline on 0800 169 0 169

Help with this leaflet:



If you would like this information in another language, large print or audio format, please ask the department to contact Patient Information: 01223 216032 or

patient.information@addenbrookes.nhs.uk



Document history

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