

Anticoagulants

(Also known as blood thinners.)

Some commonly prescribed:

- Apixiban (Eliquis)
- Dabigatran (Pradaxa)
- Edoxaban (Savaysa)
- Heparin (various)
- Rivaroxaban (Xarelto)
- Warfarin (Coumadin)

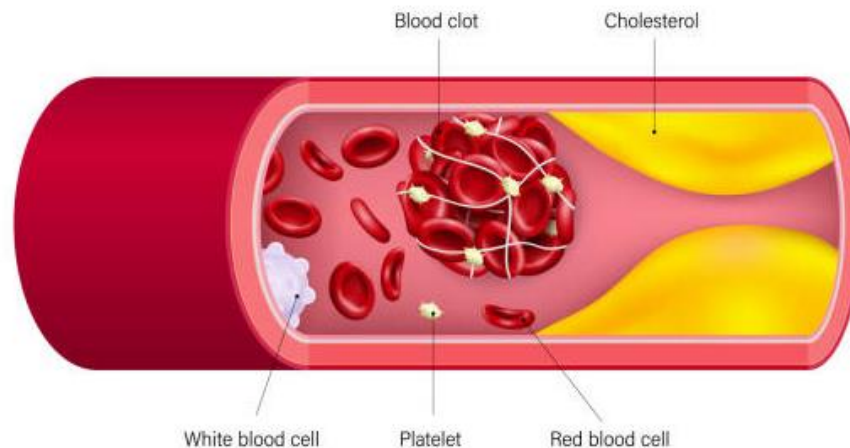
What the medication does:

Decreases the clotting (coagulating) ability of the blood.
Sometimes called blood thinners, although they do not actually thin the blood.
They do not dissolve existing blood clots and are used to treat certain blood vessel, heart and lung conditions.

Reason for the medication:

- Helps prevent blood clots from forming in the blood vessels.
- May prevent the clots from becoming larger and causing more serious problems.
- Often prescribed to prevent first or recurrent stroke or heart attack.

**Supplements and food that contain Vitamin K may decrease the therapeutic effect of certain anticoagulants. Please talk to your health care professional about any potential risks.*



Antiplatelet Agents and Dual Antiplatelet Therapy (DAPT)

Some commonly prescribed include:

- Aspirin
- Clopidogrel (Plavix)
- Dipyridamole (Persantine)
- Prasugrel (Effient)
- Ticagrelor (Brilinta)

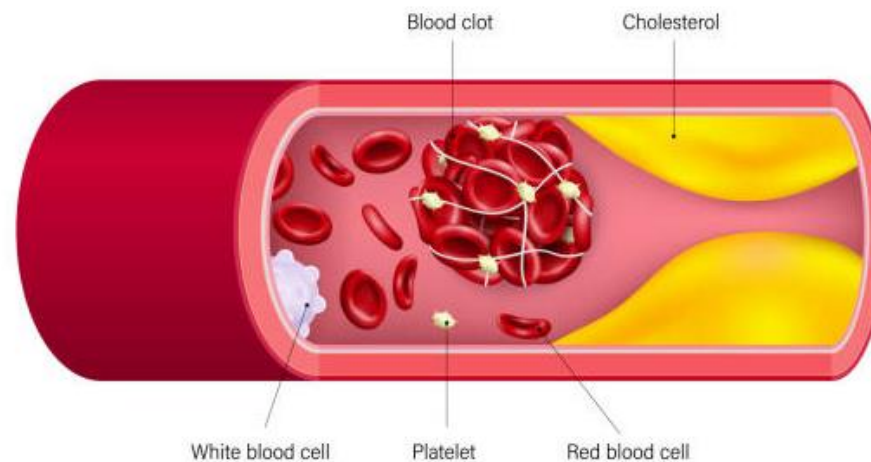
What the medication does:

Keeps blood clots from forming by preventing blood platelets from sticking together.

Reason for the medication:

Helps prevent clotting in people who have had ischemic strokes, TIA (transient ischemic attacks) and other forms of cardiovascular disease. Can also be used preventively when plaque buildup is evident but there is not yet a major blockage in the artery.

Certain people will be prescribed aspirin combined with another antiplatelet drug-also known as dual antiplatelet therapy (DAPT).



Cholesterol-lowering medications

Some commonly prescribed include:

- Statins: Atorvastatin (Lipitor), fluvastatin (Lescol), Lovastatin (Mevacor), Pitavastatin (Livalo), Pravastatin (Pravachol), Rosuvastatin (Crestor), Simvastatin (Zocor)
- Nicotinic acids: Niacin
- Cholesterol absorption inhibitor: Ezetimibe (Zetia)
- Combination statin and cholesterol absorption inhibitors: Ezetimibe/Simvastatin (Vytorin)

What the medication does:

Various medications can lower blood cholesterol levels, but drugs other than statins are usually only used for patients in whom statins are not effective or who have serious side effects from statin therapy. They work in the body in different ways. Some affect the liver, some work in the intestines and some interrupt the formation of cholesterol from circulating in the blood.

Reason for medication:

Used to lower LDL (bad) cholesterol

- *Some cholesterol-lowering medications may interact with grapefruit, grapefruit juice, pomegranate and pomegranate juice. Please talk to your health care professional about any potential risks.*

