Sharp Rees-Stealy Medical Group

Medications and Supplements That Can Affect Your INR Levels

Many medications, vitamins and supplements can affect your International Normalized Ratio (INR) and how warfarin works in your body. INR is a simple blood test result that tells your care team how quickly your blood is clotting. Monitoring your INR regularly helps ensure your medication is working safely and effectively.

Managing medications can feel overwhelming. You don't have to do it alone. Talk with your care team before starting any new medication, vitamin or supplement. They can help determine whether it may affect your INR level or increase your risk of bleeding.

Let your care team know if you:

- Start a new medication
- Stop a medication
- Change your dose
- Take an over-the-counter medicine regularly
- Begin taking vitamins, supplements or herbal products

Products that may increase your risk of bleeding

Be sure to tell your care team about all prescription medications, over-the-counter products, vitamins and supplements you take. The medications and supplements listed below may affect your INR level.

Antiplatelet medications, including:

- Aspirin
- Clopidogrel (Plavix®)
- Ticagrelor (Brilinta®)
- Prasugrel (Effient®)

Other blood thinners (anticoagulants), including:

- Fondaparinux
- Unfractionated heparin
- Enoxaparin (Lovenox®)

NSAIDs (nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs), including:

- Ibuprofen (Advil®, Motrin®)
- Naproxen (Aleve®)

Steroids, including:

- Prednisone

Supplements, including

- Fish oil
- Omega-3
- Vitamin E

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Some medications may raise your INR, while others may lower it. The list below highlights common examples.

Tell your care team if you take any of the following:

Product	Affect your INR by	What you should know
Acetaminophen (Tylenol®)	Raising INR at higher doses	
Alcohol	Raising or lowering INR	
Amiodarone	Raising INR	
Azole antifungal medications	Raising INR	
Azathioprine	Lowering INR	
Azithromycin (Zithromax®)	Raising INR	
Bosentan (Tracleer®)	Lowering INR	
Capecitabine (Xeloda®)	Raising INR	
Carbamazepine	Lowering INR	
Cephalosporin antibiotics	Raising INR	
Dicloxacillin	Lowering INR	This interaction may be more noticeable if you take this medication for more than 14 days.
Diltiazem	Raising INR	
Doxycycline		This medication may affect INR levels in some people.
Erythromycin		
Fibrate medications		
Flu vaccine		The flu vaccine may temporarily raise your INR.

Product	Affect your INR by	What you should know
Fluconazole (Diflucan®)		If you take a single dose of fluconazole, your care team may ask you to skip one dose of warfarin. For a longer treatment course, your warfarin dose may need to be reduced by 25% to 50%.
Fluoroquinolone antibiotics		This medication may affect INR levels in some people.
Mercaptopurine		
Metronidazole (Flagyl®	Raising INR	If you take metronidazole, your warfarin dose may need to be reduced by 25% to 50%.
Nafcillin	Lowering INR	
Phenytoin	Raising or lowering INR	This medication can affect INR in different ways over time. It may raise your INR at first and lower it with long-term use. It may also affect phenytoin levels.
Primidone	Lowering INR	
HIV protease inhibitors	Raising INR	
Rifampin	Lowering INR	Your doctor may need to make significant changes to your warfarin dose while you are taking this medication.
Rifamycin medications	Lowering INR	
Steroids (prednisone, prednisolone, Medrol Dosepak® and systemic triamcinolone)	Raising INR	
Sulfamethoxazole/trimethoprim (Bactrim®, Septra®)	Raising INR	A lower warfarin dose may be needed while taking this medication.
Testosterone	Raising INR	
Thyroid replacement medications	Raising INR	