

Pre-operative Medication Management

- Most prescription medications can be continued up to and including the day of surgery. If needed, oral medications can be taken with a sip of water, early in the morning on the day of surgery.
- Many medications may be continued before and after surgery without any problems. However, others must be stopped before surgery and then started during recovery.
- **Unless your surgeon or anesthesiologist tells you something different, please observe the following guidelines for taking medicines before surgery.**

Medications	Trade Names/Alternatives	Comments
Anticoagulants (Blood Thinners)		Decision to stop taking blood thinners should be balanced against the risk of increased bleeding against risk of forming blood clots
• Aspirin	ASA, Ecotrin	Usually stop 1 week prior to major surgery
• Coumadin	Warfarin	Usually stop 4-5 days before most surgery
• Clopidogrel	Plavix	Usually stop 1 week prior to surgery
• Ticlopidine	Ticlid	Usually stop 10-14 days before surgery
Diabetic Medications		
• Insulin	Humulin, Novolin, NPH	Usually withheld the morning of surgery or given as a half/dose. Blood sugar is checked on admission.
• Oral antidiabetic agents	Glipizide, gluburide, metformin, Actos, Amaryl, Diabeta	Usually withhold morning dose
Diuretics		Usually withhold morning dose to avoid dehydration and low blood volume as we???
		> Please see other side

Call for information or physician referrals: 1.888.LOURDES

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Medications to STOP TAKING

Certain medications must be discontinued preoperatively. Failure to do so may result in surgery cancellation or adverse outcomes. This list is not comprehensive and these are guidelines only that may be modified for individual patients and surgical procedures.

In case of uncertainty, contact the anesthesiologist.

• 1 Week Before Surgery

- STOP taking all aspirin and all-aspirin containing medicines pain medication bottles to make certain that aspirin is not contained.
- STOP Plavix
- STOP Vitamin E, Multi-Vitamins and Herbal Supplements

• 5 Days Before Surgery

- STOP Coumadin (warfarin) with you Doctor's permission. We need to discuss this medication with you and you will need a re-start date.

• 2 Days Before Surgery

- STOP all non-steroidal anti-inflammatory medications (Lodine, Nalfon, ibuprofen (Advil, Motrin, Nuprin) ketoralac (Toradol), maproxen (Aleve), meclufenamate (Meclomen), mefenamic acid (Ponstel), naproxen (Anaprox, Naprosyn)

• On the Morning of Your Surgery

- STOP all digitalis medications (Digoxin, Lanoxin, Crystodigin)
- STOP all oral antidiabetes medications (Diabinese, DiaBeta, Glynase, Micronase, Glucotrol, Tolinase, and Orinase)

Medications to TAKE

- Ask your physician which medications to continue taking. These are only general guidelines.**
- DO TAKE your Blood Pressure Medication and all of your heart medications.**
NOTE: Be sure to take them with only a small sip of water
- DO TAKE your asthma inhalers and bring them to the hospital with you.**