Patient information



NHS
Golden Jubilee

Commonly prescribed medicines following discharge

Important medication information following discharge

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About this booklet

This booklet describes some of the common medicines you might have been prescribed if you have had a heart attack or have angina. A member of staff will tick which medicines apply.

Commonly prescribed medicines

The table below details commonly prescribed medicines after heart procedure discharge.

Medicine class	Common names	What does it do?	Side effects	Additional information	Am I on it?
ACE Inhibitors	Ramipril Enalapril Lisinopril	Relax blood vessels to lower blood pressure. Protect the heart.	Dry cough	You will need blood tests to monitor kidneys and potassium.	☐
Angiotensin II antagonists	Candesartan Valsaratan Losartan	Relax blood vessels to lower blood pressure. Protect the heart.			☐
Angiotensin-ii receptor-neprilysin inhibitor (ARNI)	Sacubitril/ valsartan	Relax blood vessels to lower blood.			☐
Beta blockers	Bisoprolol Carvedilol Metoprolol Atenolol	Protect the heart. Lower heart rate and blood pressure.	Tiredness. Cold hands and feet. Disturbed sleep.		☐

Medicine class	Common names	What does it do?	Side effects	Additional information	Am I on it?
Statins	Atorvastatin Rosuvastatin Simvastatin	Lower cholesterol. Protect the heart.	Muscle pains. Upset tummy. Tiredness/ disturbed sleep.		☐
Glyceryl Tri-Nitrate (GTN)	GTN spray or tablets	Treat angina attacks	Dizziness Headaches	You use Glyceryl Tri-Nitrate (GTN) tablets and spray under your tongue when required.	☐
Anti-platelets	Aspirin	Reduce stickiness of blood and stop clotting.	Tummy upset Likely to bleed and bruise more easily. Ticagrelor may cause shortness of breath.		☐
	Clopidogrel				☐
	Prasugrel				☐
	Ticagrelor				☐
Sodium Glucose co-transporter 2 inhibitors (SGL2i)	Empagliflozin Dapagliflozin	Protect heart Protect kidneys Help manage blood sugar in diabetic patients	Thrush. Back pain. Urinating more than normal. Feeling dizzy. Mild skin rash.		

Medicine class	Common names	What does it do?	Side Effects	Additional information	Am I on it?
Calcium channel blockers	Amlodipine Diltiazem Verapamil	Improve supply of blood to heart.	Flushing. Headache. Drowsiness. Swollen ankles.		☐
Diuretics (water tablets)	Furosemide Bumetanide	Get rid of extra water in body	If you have sickness and diarrhoea you need to temporarily stop this medicine.	You will need blood tests to monitor kidneys, sodium and potassium.	☐
Aldosterone anatagonists (potassium sparing diuretics)	Eplerenone Spironolac-tone	Help prevent extra water in the body. Protects the heart.			☐
Nitrates taken by mouth each day	Isosorbide mononitrate Isosorbide dinitrate	Improve supply of blood to the heart. Make it easier for heart to pump blood around body.	Headache. Flushing. Dizziness. Feeling faint.		☐
Potassium Channel Activators	Nicorandil	Improve supply of blood to the heart.	Headache. Flushing. Dizziness. Tummy upset.		☐

Top tips

- Read the information that comes with your medicines to find out why you need to take them, how to take them safely and what side effects to look out for.
- Keep a list of the names of each medicine you take, the dose, and when you need to take it, or take the medicines with you to medical appointments.
- If you have trouble remembering to take your medicines, please speak to our Pharmacist.
- Do not stop taking any medicines without asking your doctor first as this could make your condition and symptoms worse. If you develop any new, persistent or troublesome symptoms after starting medicine(s), tell you doctor immediately.
- Check with your doctor, pharmacist or nurse before taking any over the counter medicines – note this also includes herbal and natural remedies.

Other sources of information

British Heart Foundation
www.bhf.org.uk

NHS Inform
www.nhsinfom.scot

Notes

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