

# TAKING RIVAROXABAN

(Also known as Xarelto®)



Your doctor prescribed rivaroxaban to keep blood clots from forming



Rivaroxaban along with other medicines will help prevent stroke



Rivaroxaban is an oral anticoagulant and it is often called a “blood thinner”



Rivaroxaban must be taken **once a day with heavy meal** to work properly



A blood test to check your kidneys will be **done prior to starting rivaroxaban** and at least every year



A **common reason** to take this medicine is atrial fibrillation



Atrial fibrillation is an irregular heart rhythm that can cause blood clots to form which **can lead to stroke**

Most people who have been prescribed rivaroxaban to prevent Stroke **take it for the rest of their lives**

## TELL YOUR DOCTOR IF YOU HAVE:



Bleeding gums



Bruising too much



Nose bleeds

## CALL YOUR DOCTOR OR GO TO AN EMERGENCY ROOM IF YOU DEVELOP:



Difficulty breathing or wheezing



Stomach pain/vomiting blood



Black or bloody stools



Severe headache with nausea

## WHAT YOU CAN DO:



**Take your rivaroxaban at the same time every day**

- Do not stop taking your rivaroxaban without talking to your doctor
- Missing a dose can put you at risk for forming clots



**If you miss a dose:**

- If it is within 12 hours of usually taking it, take the missed dose
- If it is more than 12 hours, skip the dose
- Do not take two doses at the same time
- Never take an extra dose to catch up



**Make an appointment with your doctor before your prescription runs out**

- Tell your doctor or dentist that you are on rivaroxaban if you need any surgery or procedure



**Obtain a medical alert bracelet to indicate you are on rivaroxaban** - in case of emergency, it would be important for your health care team to know



**Tell your pharmacist or doctor about all the medicines** that you may be taking, including vitamins, herbal products or recreational drugs



**Report any side effects to your doctor or pharmacist** so that they can give you tips on how to minimize them



**TALK TO YOUR HEALTHCARE PROVIDER** IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT OR ARE HAVING TROUBLE TAKING YOUR MEDICATIONS