

Checking how well your medicine is working

Blood thinners help to prevent blood clots. They are used to treat people who have had a heart attack, stroke, or other blood vessel problems. They are also used to prevent blood clots in people who are at risk of having one. There are two main types of blood thinners: warfarin and direct oral anticoagulants (DOACs).

Warfarin is a type of blood thinner that is used to prevent blood clots. It is a type of Vitamin K antagonist (VKA). DOACs are a newer type of blood thinner that are used to prevent blood clots. They are also used to treat people who have had a heart attack, stroke, or other blood vessel problems. They are also used to prevent blood clots in people who are at risk of having one.

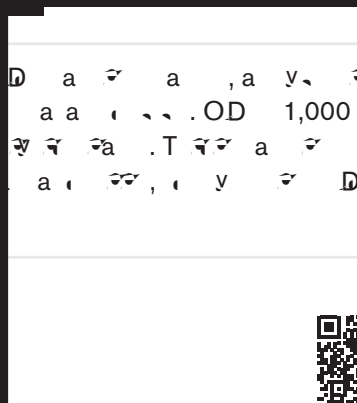
If you take warfarin or other VKA pill

Your doctor will check your blood clotting levels with a test called an INR (International Normalized Ratio). This test measures how long it takes for your blood to clot. The INR is a number that tells your doctor how well your blood thinners are working. The INR is usually checked every 4 to 6 weeks. If your INR is too high, you may be at risk of bleeding. If your INR is too low, you may be at risk of having a blood clot.

Your doctor will adjust your dose of warfarin or other VKA pill based on your INR. It is important to take your blood thinners exactly as your doctor has prescribed. Do not stop taking your blood thinners without talking to your doctor first.



changing your own medication





If you are taking DOACs

If you are taking DOACs (Direct Oral Anticoagulants), you do not need to have your blood tested at home. You should have your blood tested at the hospital or clinic.



If you are not testing your blood at home

If you are not testing your blood at home, you should have your blood tested at the hospital or clinic. You should also have your blood tested at the hospital or clinic if you are taking a special anticoagulation management service (AMS).

An AMS is a service that provides you with a special anticoagulation management service (AMS) to help you manage your blood thinning medication. You should have your blood tested at the hospital or clinic.



Benefits: Getting an AMS can help you manage your blood thinning medication better. It can also help you avoid complications from your blood thinning medication.

Harms: There are some risks associated with getting an AMS.

