



Patient Information

Post-Coronary Stenting: Dual Antiplatelet Medication

You have been started on dual anti-platelet therapy (DAPT) following placement of stent(s) in your coronary arteries. These medications are important to prevent your blood from clotting too easily.

The most common combinations of DAPT are aspirin with either clopidogrel (Plavix®), or ticagrelor (Brilique®) or prasugrel (Efient®).

Sometimes these medications are also combined with anticoagulant medication such as apixaban (Eliquis®), dabigatran (Pradaxa®), edoxaban (Lixiana®), rivaroxaban (Xarelto®), or warfarin.

The choice of medication is based on you as an individual, and will be explained to you, and your GP, on discharge from hospital

- It is **vitaly important** that your DAPT medication is taken as directed by your hospital doctor on discharge. The hospital will advise you, and your GP about how to take your medication, and for how long it should continue
- After you have a stent inserted, DAPT will reduce the risk of the stent blocking
- It is important that you **do not miss any doses of your DAPT medication**
- Please check with your doctor or pharmacist if you start taking, or are prescribed any additional medication (including over the counter medicines)

- **Always inform any healthcare professional (such as a doctor, nurse, pharmacist or dentist) who is treating you, that you are taking DAPT medication.** This includes discussions concerning any surgical, medical or dental procedures.
- If you have any side effects from DAPT medication, such as an upset stomach, or shortness of breath, you should contact your GP or cardiac rehabilitation nurse. **Do not stop DAPT medication without confirming a plan with one of these healthcare professionals**
- If you have any of the following side-effects, speak to a doctor immediately:
 - blood in your urine, or black tarry stools (bowel movement)
 - Any other prolonged, unexplained bleeding
 - Rash

It is vitally important that the DAPT medication is **NOT stopped early**, unless there is a serious complication.

Stopping DAPT too early will increase the risk of stents blocking and heart attack