



STANFORD UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
DEPARTMENT OF OTOLARYNGOLOGY-HEAD & NECK SURGERY

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Medications and Herbs That Affect Bleeding

Many drugs, herbs, vitamins and diet supplements may increase bleeding during surgery. Below is a list of the more common agents that may cause bleeding. This list does not include every drug and you should always contact your surgeon's office if you are not sure whether it is safe to continue taking a particular drug, vitamin or herb.

- Stop taking all vitamins, herbs and diet supplements 7 days **before** surgery. You may resume them 7 days after your surgery.
- Stop taking all anti-platelet drugs, non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs, and aspirin 7 days **before** surgery. Consult your surgeon for instructions on when to restart these medications.
- If you are taking anti-coagulants ask the prescribing physician about when to stop these prior to surgery. Please be sure your surgeon is aware if you are taking any of these medications. Your surgeon will advise on when it is safe to restart these medications.

Anti-platelet Agents		Anti-coagulants
Anagrelide (Agrylin®)	Dipyridamole/aspirin (Aggrenox®)	Anisindione (Miradon®)
Aspirin (any brand, all doses – including “baby aspirin” 81 mg)	Enteric coated aspirin (Ecotrin®)	Enoxaparin (Lovenox®) injection
Cilostazol (Pletal®)	Ticlopidine (Ticlid®)	Heparin injection
Clopidogrel (Plavix®)		Pentosan polysulfate (Elmiron®)
Dipyridamole (Persantine®)		Warfarin (Coumadin®)
Non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs		Herbs/ vitamins
Diclofenac (Voltaren®, Cataflam®)		Ajoene
Diflunisal (Dolobid®)		Birch bark
Etodolac (Lodine®)		Cayenne
Fenoprofen (Nalfon®)		Chinese black tree fungus
Flurbiprofen (Ansaid®)		Cumin
Ibuprofen (Motrin®, Advil®, Nuprin®, Rufen®)		Evening primrose oil
Indomethacin (Indocin®)		Feverfew
Ketoprofen (Orudis®, Actron®)		Garlic
Ketorlac (Toradol®)		Ginger
Meclofenamate (Meclomen®)		Ginkgo biloba
Meloxicam (Mobic®)		Ginseng
Nabumeton (Relafen®)		Grapeseed extract
Naproxen (Naprosyn®, Naprelan®, Aleve®)		Milk thistle
Oxaprozin (Daypro®)		Omega 3 fatty acids
Piroxicam (Feldene®)		Onion extract
Salsalate (Salflex®, Disalcid®)		St. John's wort
Sulindac (Clinoril®)		Tumeric
Sulfinpyrazone		Vitamins C & E
Tolmetin (Tolectin®)		
Trilisate (Salicylate combination)		