

What Should I Do About My Medications Before and After Surgery?

Some medications must be stopped before surgery. Others cannot be immediately restarted after surgery. **These are general guidelines, talk to the doctor that prescribes your medications to determine when to stop and start each one.** On the morning of surgery, take medications for your heart (blood pressure medications, heart rate medications, etc.)

Pain Medications: Narcotic pain medications include Vicodin, Norco, oxycodone, hydrocodone, Percocet Oxycontin, dilaudid, hydromorphone, etc. A narcotic pain medication will be provided post-operatively. Patients seeing a pain management doctor should talk to their doctor to make a plan for how to handle these medications around surgery.

Blood Thinners: If you are taking Aspirin, Coumadin/Warfarin, Plavix/clopidogrel, Eliquis/apixaban, Pradaxa/dabigatran, Xarelto/rivaroxaban, or another blood thinning medication, ask your cardiologist if it is ok to stop the medication. If you are going to stop the medication, ask your primary care physician or cardiologist about whether you need a temporary bridge blood thinning medication during the time before surgery.

Medication (generic name)	How long to hold before surgery	When to restart after surgery
Non-steroidal anti-inflammatories	3 days	Immediately
Aspirin	3 days	Immediately
Coumadin/Warfarin	5 days	Immediately
Plavix/clopidogrel	5 days	Immediately
Enoxaparin/lovenox	24 hours	Immediately
Eliquis/apixaban	48 hours	Immediately
Pradaxa/dabigatran	3 days	Immediately
Xarelto/rivaroxaban	48 hours	Immediately
Methotrexate	Do not stop	Immediately
Hydroxychloroquine (plaquenil)	Do not stop	Immediately
Sulfasalazine (Azoltidine)	Hold Day of surgery	Immediately
Azathioprine (Imuran)	1 week	Immediately
Leflunomide (Avara)	2 days	2 weeks
Etanercept (Enbrel)	2 week	2 weeks
Infliximab (Remicade)	4 weeks	2 weeks
Golimumab	4 weeks	2 weeks
Tocilizumab (Actemra)	4 weeks	Immediately
Abatacept (Grenicia)	4 weeks	Immediately
Adalimumab (Humira)	2 weeks	2 weeks
Certolizumab	4 weeks	Immediately
Rituximab (Cimzia)	8 weeks	Immediately
Stellara	12 weeks	2 weeks
Taltz	4 weeks	2 weeks
Xeljanz	3 days	Immediately
Invokana/Farxiga/Jardiance	3 days	Immediately
Semiglutide/dulaglutide/Trizepatide	Hold injection week of surgery	immediately