Warfarin is a medication which inhibits the blood clotting process, thereby reducing the risk of an AF-related stroke.

People on warfarin are required to have regular blood tests to check for International Normalised Ratio (INR), a measure of the blood’s clotting capability. Warfarin works by interfering with how the liver uses the vitamin K taken in our diet. Many other medications are also broken down by the liver and they may affect how effectively warfarin thins the blood. Certain medications can increase the effect of warfarin and thus a lower dose may need to be taken, whilst others decrease the effect of warfarin so a higher dose may need to be taken.

People taking warfarin together with long-term medications may need increased monitoring of their INR when medications are started or doses are adjusted, so that the right dose of warfarin is given and the blood remains within the correct INR range.

**Medications that increase the effects of warfarin include:**

- Amiodarone  heart rhythm medication
- Aspirin  pain killer
- Allopurinol  used in gout
- Ampicillin  antibiotic
- Atorvastatin  cholesterol medication
- Celecoxib  anti-inflammatory pain killer
- Cefalexin  antibiotic
- Cefradine  antibiotic
- Cimetidine  indigestion and stomach ulcer healing medication
- Citalopram  antidepressant
- Ciprofloxacin  antibiotic
- Clarithromycin  antibiotic
- Clopidogrel  antiplatelet medication
- Cranberry juice  drink
- Dexamethasone  oral steroid medication
- Diclofenac  anti-inflammatory pain killer
- Dipyridamole  antiplatelet medication
- Disulfiram  used in alcohol misuse therapy
- Entacapone  used in Parkinson’s disease
- Erythromycin  antibiotic
- Esomeprazole  indigestion and stomach ulcer healing medication
- Etodolac  anti-inflammatory pain killer
- Ezetimibe  cholesterol medication
- Fluconazole  as oral antifungal medication
- Flutamide  used in prostate cancer
- Fluoxetine  antidepressant
- Glucosamine  health supplement for joint pain
- Ibuprofen  anti-inflammatory pain killer
- Itraconazole  as oral antifungal medication
- Ketoconazole  as oral antifungal medication
- Levothyroxine  thyroid replacement hormone
- Mefenamic acid  anti-inflammatory pain killer and used for period pain
- Meloxicam  anti-inflammatory pain killer
- Metronidazole  antibiotic
- Miconazole  as oral or topical anti-fungal medication
- Mirtazepine  antidepressant
• Neomycin antibiotic
• Norfloxacin antibiotic
• Omeprazole indigestion and stomach ulcer healing medication
• Orlistat anti-obesity medication
• Oxytetracycline antibiotic
• Piroxicam anti-inflammatory pain killer
• Pantoprazole indigestion and stomach ulcer healing medication
• Paroxetine antidepressant
• Prednisolone oral steroid medication (at high dose only)
• Proguanil malaria treatment and prophylaxis
• Rosuvastatin cholesterol medication
• Sertraline antidepressant
• Sibutramine anti-obesity medication
• Simvastatin cholesterol medication
• Sixaxentan used to treat hypertension
• Sodium valporate anti-epileptic medication
• Sulfinpyrazone gout medication
• Tamoxifen used in breast cancer
• Tetracycline antibiotic
• Testosterone male hormone supplement

• Tramadol pain killer
• Trimethoprim antibiotic
• Venlafaxine antidepressant

Medications that decrease the effect of warfarin include:

• Barbiturates sedative medication
• Bosentan used to treat hypertension
• Carbamazepine anti-epileptic medication
• Griseofulvin as an oral antifungal medication
• Phenytoin anti-epileptic medication
• Primidone anti-epileptic medication
• Rifampicin antibiotic
• St John’s Wort antidepressant (use with warfarin is not recommended)
• Sucralfate indigestion and stomach ulcer healing medication
• Vitamin K vitamin supplement

This list does not contain all of the drugs which interact with warfarin, and is intended as a general guide.

If you are on warfarin and you are concerned about interactions with other drugs you are taking, or you are considering taking drugs, cold and flu medications or herbal remedies, you should seek advice from a GP, an anticoagulation clinic, a pharmacist or a qualified healthcare professional.

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