

To reduce your bleeding and clotting risk it is important that you **attend follow-up appointments** with your provider, and **have blood tests done** as your provider orders.

## What is rivaroxaban (Xarelto®)?

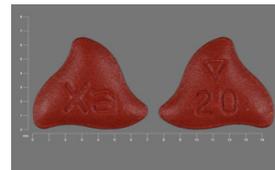
- Rivaroxaban is also called Xarelto®
- Rivaroxaban(Xarelto®) is used to reduce the risk of blood clots and stroke in people with an abnormal heart rhythm known as atrial fibrillation, in people who have had a blood clot, or in people who have undergone orthopedic surgery.
  - Blood clots can block a blood vessel cutting off blood supply to the area.
  - Rarely, clots can break into pieces and travel in the blood stream, lodging in the heart (causing a heart attack), the lungs (causing a pulmonary embolus), or in the brain (causing a stroke).
- If you were previously on Warfarin/Coumadin® and you are starting Rivaroxaban(Xarelto®), **do not** continue taking warfarin. Rivaroxaban(Xarelto®) replaces warfarin.



Xarelto 10mg tablet



Xarelto 15mg tablet



Xarelto 20mg tablet

## How should I take rivaroxaban (Xarelto®)?

- Take Rivaroxaban(Xarelto®) exactly as prescribed by your doctor.
- Rivaroxaban(Xarelto®) should be taken with food.
- Rivaroxaban(Xarelto®) tablets may be crushed and mixed with applesauce to make the tablet easier to swallow.

- If you missed a dose:
  - Take it as soon as you remember on the same day.
- Do not stop taking rivaroxaban suddenly without telling your doctor. This can put you at risk of having a stroke or a blood clot.
- If you take too much rivaroxaban, call your doctor or the anticoagulation service. If you are experiencing any bleeding which you cannot get to stop, go to the nearest emergency room.

### **How should I store Rivaroxaban (Xarelto®)?**

- Store at room temperature in a dry area (avoid storing it in the bathroom).

### **What should I know about Rivaroxaban (Xarelto®)?**

- Rivaroxaban(Xarelto®) can increase your risk of bleeding because it lessens your body's ability to clot. While you take Rivaroxaban(Xarelto®), you may bruise more easily and it may take longer for bleeding to stop.
- Rivaroxaban(Xarelto®) can cause bleeding which can be serious. You may have a higher risk of bleeding if you take Rivaroxaban(Xarelto®) and:
  - You are over 75 years old
  - You have kidney problems
  - You have stomach or intestine bleeding that is recent or recurs, or have a stomach ulcer.
  - You take other medications that increase your risk of bleeding, including:
    - Aspirin or products that contain aspirin
    - Long-term use of non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) including ibuprofen and naproxen.
    - Clopidogrel (Plavix®), prasugrel (Effient®), or ticagrelor (Brilinta®)
    - Any medicine that contains heparin

## **What are the potential side effects of Rivaroxaban (Xarelto®)?**

- Rivaroxaban(Xarelto®) can increase your risk of bleeding because it lessens your body's ability to clot. While you take rivaroxaban, you may bruise more easily and it may take longer for bleeding to stop.
- In some people, Rivaroxaban(Xarelto®) can cause symptoms of an allergic reaction, including hives, rash, and itching. Seek medical attention right away if you get any of the following symptoms of a serious allergic reaction:
  - Chest pain or chest tightness
  - Swelling of your face or tongue
  - Trouble breathing or wheezing
  - Feeling dizzy or faint

## **When should I call my doctor or anticoagulation service?**

- If you start or stop any medications, including over-the-counter medications or herbal supplements. These may affect the way Rivaroxaban(Xarelto®) works.
- You are having a surgery or procedure as you may need to stop taking Rivaroxaban(Xarelto®) for a short period of time before your procedure. Do not stop taking Rivaroxaban(Xarelto®) without first talking with your doctor.
- You need a medication refill (notify them before you are out of Rivaroxaban(Xarelto®) so you do not run out).
- If you are unable to afford Rivaroxaban(Xarelto®)
- If you experience any unexpected bleeding or bleeding that lasts a long time, such as:
  - Unusual bleeding from the gums
  - Nose bleeds that happen often
  - Menstrual bleeding or vaginal bleeding that is heavier than normal
  - Bruises that happen without a known cause or get larger

## When should I seek emergency medical help?

Call 911 immediately if you experience any of the following serious conditions:

- If you experience any of the following signs and symptoms of bleeding:
  - Bleeding that is severe or bleeding that you cannot control
  - Pink or brown urine
  - Red or black stools (that look like tar)
  - Coughing up blood or blood clots
  - Vomiting up blood or if your vomit looks like “coffee grounds”
- If you experience any of the following signs and symptoms of a stroke:
  - Dizziness, sudden loss of vision, or sudden severe headache
  - Numbness or weakness in any limb
  - Difficulty speaking or slurred speech
  - Drooping on one side of your face
- If you experience any of the following signs and symptoms of blood clots:
  - Sudden severe shortness of breath, chest pain
  - Swelling, redness, heat, or pain in any limb

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