

DRUG INTERACTION CONSIDERATIONS WITH ANTICOAGULANTS

Many medications interfere with the effectiveness of anticoagulants, resulting in abnormal PT/INR levels. **PLEASE NOTIFY THE ANTICOAGULATION CLINIC ABOUT ANY MEDICATION CHANGE, E.G., DOSE CHANGE, IF A NEW MEDICATION IS ADDED, OR IF AN EXISTING MEDICATION IS STOPPED. IF WE ARE NOT AWARE OF A CHANGE, YOU MAY BE PUTTING YOURSELF AT RISK FOR INTERNAL BLEEDING, STROKE OR OTHER COMPLICATIONS.**

PRESCRIPTION DRUGS (RX)

Some prescription drugs, when taken with an anticoagulant may affect the PT/INR result. When your health care provider prescribes a drug to you, please notify our clinic so we can make any necessary changes in your anticoagulation dose and keep your levels in range.

OVER THE COUNTER MEDICATIONS (OTCS)

Over the counter medications can also have an effect on your PT/INR result. Please notify our clinic when you take any over the counter medication. This includes aspirin, Tylenol, ibuprofen, cough and cold remedies, antacids, antihistamines, vitamins, minerals, etc.

HERBAL SUPPLEMENTS

Many herbal supplements affect the PT/INR result. **WE DO NOT RECOMMEND TAKING HERBAL SUPPLEMENTS WHILE YOU ARE ON ANTICOAGULATION THERAPY.** Due to the lack of manufacturing standardization with herbal supplement production, the amount of active ingredients may greatly vary. Some herbals that increase your PT/INR are garlic, ginkgo biloba and ginseng. Some herbals that decrease your PT/INR include St. John's wort and coenzyme Q10.