Atrial Fibrillation
Counselling Support Tool
Apixaban 5mg
Your new tablet is Apixaban 5mg

The brand name is Eliquis
You have been prescribed Apixaban 5mg because you have Atrial Fibrillation - a type of irregular heartbeat.
Atrial fibrillation is a major cause of stroke, particularly in older people.
Atrial fibrillation can cause blood clots.

Blood clots can travel to the brain and cause a stroke.
Apixaban stops most strokes caused by atrial fibrillation.
Most people will take Apixaban for the rest of their lives.
Your GP will do a blood test a few times a year.
This is less often than with Warfarin.
Take Apixaban twice a day
With OR without food
Never miss tablets
When will you take your Apixaban?
Apixaban is short lived in the body
Do not miss any tablets
Apixaban makes it take longer to stop bleeding
If you notice any bleeding when you use the toilet or if your poo looks black (tarry), tell your doctor the same day.

If you have lots of bleeding, seek immediate medical help.
If you are bleeding badly and it doesn’t stop, seek immediate medical help. Explain that you are taking Apixaban.
If you hit your head badly seek immediate medical help so that you can be checked for internal bleeding. Explain that you are taking Apixaban.
If you hit any part of your body badly, seek immediate medical help so that you can be checked for internal bleeding.

Explain that you are taking Apixaban.
Always keep your anticoagulant alert card with you.
All foods are okay

Do not drink lots of alcohol – stay within the recommended limits
Tell people – Doctor, Nurse, Pharmacist, Dentist that you are taking Apixaban.
Ask your Doctor about any new medicines, including over the counter medicines, vitamins and herbal remedies

Paracetamol is OK
Acknowledgements

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• Satinder Bhandal, Consultant Pharmacist Anticoagulation, Buckinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust

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