Atrial Fibrillation Counselling Support Tool
Dabigatran 150mg
Your new tablet is Dabigatran 150mg

The brand name is Pradaxa
You have been prescribed Dabigatran 150mg 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.
Dabigatran stops most strokes caused by atrial fibrillation
Most people will take Dabigatran 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 Dabigatran twice a day

Never miss capsules
Swallow whole with food or plenty of liquid
When will you take your Dabigatran?
Do not store Dabigatran in a dosette box
Dabigatran is short-lived in the body
Do not miss any tablets
Dabigatran 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 Dabigatran.
If you hit your head badly seek immediate medical help so that you can be checked for internal bleeding. Explain that you are taking Dabigatran.
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 Dabigatran.
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 Dabigatran
Ask your Doctor about any new medicines, including over the counter medicines, vitamins and herbal remedies

Paracetamol is OK
Acknowledgements

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