Atrial Fibrillation
Counselling Support Tool
Rivaroxaban 20mg
Your new tablet is Rivaroxaban 20mg
The brand name is Xarelto
You have been prescribed Rivaroxaban 20mg 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.
Rivaroxaban stops most strokes caused by atrial fibrillation.
Most people will take Rivaroxaban 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 Rivaroxaban ONCE a day
Never miss tablets
You must take Rivaroxaban with food
When will you take your Rivaroxaban?
Rivaroxaban is short lived in the body
Do not miss any tablets
Rivaroxaban 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 Rivaroxaban.
If you hit your head badly seek immediate medical help so that you can be checked for internal bleeding. Explain that you are taking Rivaroxaban.
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 Rivaroxaban.
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 Rivaroxaban
Ask your Doctor about any new medicines, including over the counter medicines, vitamins and herbal remedies.

Paracetamol is OK.
Acknowledgements

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