

# Medication Information

## **Clopidogrel** (Clo – pid – o – grel)

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### **Other names for this medication**

Plavix<sup>®</sup>

### **How this medication is used**

This medication works by slowing the clotting of blood. It is given to people who have had a stroke. It is also given to people with heart or vascular disease.

It also is given after an angioplasty to prevent blood clots forming on the stent.

### **How to take this medication**

Take this medication exactly as directed by your health care provider. To avoid stomach upset, take this medication with food.

If you miss a dose of this medication, take it as soon as possible. However, if it is almost time for the next dose, skip the missed dose and go back to your regular time. Do not take 2 doses at one time.

Do not take other products that contain acetylsalicylic acid or other non-steroidal anti-inflammatory medications such as ibuprofen while take this medication unless advised by your health care provider.

## **While taking this medication you may notice**

- upset stomach
- nausea
- diarrhea

## **Contact your health care provider if you notice**

- skin rash
- continuing diarrhea, nausea or stomach upset
- signs of bleeding such as easy bruising, nosebleeds, black or bloody stools, red urine
- change in the colour of your skin, eyes or stool

If you are having elective surgery or major dental work, you should stop taking this medication 7 days before the procedure. Talk to your surgeon or dentist about this in advance.