

# Medication Information

## Digoxin (Di – jox – in)

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### Other names for this medication

Toloxin<sup>®</sup>

### How this medication is used

This medication is used to treat heart failure. It works by making your heart beat slower and stronger. This helps your heart pump blood better. When your heart works better, you have less swelling of your feet and ankles. You also breathe easier. You may be able to do more walking and exercise.

This medication is also used to manage an irregular heart beat called atrial fibrillation, or AFib.

It may take several months before this medication helps improve your heart.

### How to take this medication

Take this medication exactly as directed by your health care provider. It must be taken regularly, even if you feel well.

If you miss a dose of this medication, take it as soon as possible. However, if it is more than 12 hours, skip the missed dose and go back to your regular time. Do not take 2 doses at one time.

## **How to take this medication (continued)**

Your health care provider will adjust the amount of medication you take based on the results of blood tests.

Tell your health care provider and pharmacist about all the medications and natural or herbal products you take, even the ones you buy without a prescription.

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

You may notice a faster or slower heart beat or pulse.

Your health care provider may teach you how to check your heart beat or pulse.

If you take antacids for any reason, wait at least 2 hours after you take digoxin, then have the antacid.

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

- your heart beat is much faster or slower than usual
- you feel very tired or weak
- loss of appetite
- nausea, vomiting
- diarrhea
- blurred vision
- disturbed colour vision
- confusion
- headache
- abnormal behaviour