

Medicines for Heart Valve Problems



If you are having symptoms from your heart valve problem, certain medicines can ease them. Other medicines help prevent problems that may occur due to valve disease. Your healthcare provider can discuss what's right for you. Take any medicine exactly as you are instructed.



Medicines for symptoms

Here are some types of medicines that may be prescribed:

- **Diuretics** help rid the body of excess fluid through your urine. Having less fluid to pump makes a heart's job easier. Getting rid of extra water can also help reduce swelling, bloating, and shortness of breath.
- **Digitalis** helps the heart pump with more strength. This allows the heart to pump more blood with each beat. Digitalis may also keep the heartbeat regular.
- **ACE inhibitors or ARBs** make blood flow more easily by relaxing blood vessels and lowering blood pressure. This means the heart doesn't have to work as hard to pump the same amount of blood.
- **Beta-blockers** slow the heart rate, which lessens the work the heart has to do and keeps the heartbeat regular. They can also help the heart pump better.
- **Antiarrhythmics** control a fast or irregular heartbeat (palpitations).

Other medicines

Problems with heart valves can make the heart more likely to form blood clots or become infected. Medicines that help prevent these problems may be prescribed for you.

- **Anticoagulants** prevent blood clots from forming inside the heart chambers or on a damaged heart valve. These medicines may require close monitoring.

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