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2. Ticagrelor

Ticagrelor

Generic name: ticagrelor [*tye-KA-grel-or*]**Brand names:** Brilinta (ticagrelor), [Brilinta](#)**Dosage form:** oral tablet (60 mg; 90 mg)**Drug class:** [Platelet aggregation inhibitors](#)[Medically reviewed](#) by Drugs.com on Jan 13, 2025. Written by [Cerner Multum](#).[Uses](#) [Side effects](#) [Warnings](#) [Before taking](#) [Dosage](#) [Interactions](#) [FAQ](#)

What is ticagrelor?

Ticagrelor is used to lower your risk of [heart attack](#), [stroke](#), or death due to a blocked artery or a prior heart attack.

Ticagrelor is also used to lower your risk of blood clots if you have [coronary artery disease](#) (decreased blood flow to the heart) and have been treated with stents to open clogged arteries.

Ticagrelor is also used to lower your risk of a first heart attack or stroke if you have decreased blood flow to the heart.

Ticagrelor is also used to lower the risk of stroke and death in adults with a blockage or decreased blood flow in an artery that supplies blood to the brain.

Ticagrelor is usually given together with low-dose [aspirin](#). **Carefully follow your doctor's dosing instructions. Using too much aspirin can make ticagrelor less effective.**

Ticagrelor may also be used for purposes not listed in this medication guide.

Ticagrelor side effects

Get emergency medical help if you have **signs of an allergic reaction**: hives; difficult breathing; swelling of your face, lips, tongue, or throat.

Ticagrelor may cause serious side effects. Call your doctor at once if you have:

- slow heartbeats;
- nosebleeds, or any bleeding that will not stop;
- [shortness of breath](#) even with mild exertion or while lying down;
- easy bruising, unusual bleeding, purple or red spots under your skin;
- red, pink, or brown urine;

- black, bloody, or tarry stools; or
- coughing up blood or vomit that looks like coffee grounds.

Common side effects of ticagrelor may include:

- bleeding; or
- shortness of breath.

This is not a complete list of side effects and others may occur. Call your doctor for medical advice about side effects. You may report side effects to FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088.

 [Ticagrelor side effects](#) (more detail)

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Warnings

You should not use ticagrelor if you have any active bleeding or a history of bleeding in the brain. Do not use ticagrelor just before heart bypass [surgery](#).

Ticagrelor may cause you to bleed more easily, which can be severe or life-threatening. Call your doctor or seek emergency medical attention if you have bleeding that will not stop, black or bloody stools, red or pink urine, or if you cough up blood or vomit that looks like coffee grounds.

Tell your doctor about all your current medicines and any you start or stop using. **Many drugs can interact with ticagrelor.**

Do not stop taking ticagrelor without first talking to your doctor, even if you have signs of bleeding. Stopping ticagrelor may increase your risk of a heart attack or stroke.

Before taking this medicine

You should not use ticagrelor if you are allergic to it, or if you have:

- any active bleeding; or
- a history of bleeding in the brain (such as from a [head injury](#)).

Tell your doctor if you have ever had:

- a stroke;
- heart problems;

- a surgery or bleeding injury;
- bleeding problems;
- a [stomach ulcer](#) or colon polyps;
- [liver disease](#); or
- [asthma](#), COPD (chronic obstructive pulmonary disorder) or other breathing problem.

It is not known whether this medicine will harm an unborn baby. Tell your doctor if you are pregnant or plan to become pregnant.

You should not breastfeed while using ticagrelor.

How should I take ticagrelor?

Follow all directions on your prescription label and read all medication guides or instruction sheets. **Ticagrelor is taken together with aspirin.** Use these medicines exactly as directed.

Do not take more aspirin than your doctor has prescribed. Taking too much aspirin can make ticagrelor less effective.

Take ticagrelor at the same times each day, with or without food.

If you cannot swallow a tablet whole, crush the pill and mix it with water. Stir and drink this mixture right away. Add more water to the glass, stir, and drink right away.

Ticagrelor keeps your blood from coagulating (clotting) and can make it easier for you to bleed, even from a minor injury. Contact your doctor or seek emergency medical attention if you have any bleeding that will not stop.

To prevent excessive bleeding, you may need to stop using ticagrelor for a short time before a surgery, medical procedure, or [dental](#) work. **Any healthcare provider who treats you should know that you are taking ticagrelor.**

Do not stop taking ticagrelor without first talking to your doctor, even if you have signs of bleeding. Stopping the medicine could increase your risk of a heart attack or stroke.

ticagrelor may affect medical testing for platelets in your blood and you may have false results. Tell the laboratory staff that you use ticagrelor.

Store at room temperature away from moisture and heat.

 [Detailed Ticagrelor dosage information](#)

What happens if I miss a dose?

Skip the missed dose and use your next dose at the regular time. **Do not** use two doses at one time.

What happens if I overdose?

Seek emergency medical attention or call the Poison Help line at 1-800-222-1222. Overdose can cause excessive bleeding.

What should I avoid while taking ticagrelor?

Drinking alcohol while taking aspirin can increase your risk of stomach bleeding.

Avoid activities that may increase your risk of bleeding or injury. Use extra care to prevent bleeding while shaving or brushing your teeth.

While taking ticagrelor with aspirin, avoid using medicines for pain, fever, swelling, or cold/flu symptoms. They may contain ingredients similar to aspirin (such as [salicylates](#), [ibuprofen](#), [ketoprofen](#), or [naproxen](#)). **Taking certain products together can cause you to get too much aspirin which can increase your risk of bleeding.**

What other drugs will affect ticagrelor?

Sometimes it is not safe to use certain medications at the same time. Some drugs can affect your blood levels of other drugs you take, which may increase side effects or make the medications less effective.

Tell your doctor about all your current medicines. Many drugs can affect ticagrelor, especially:

- antifungal medicine;
- antiviral medicine to treat HIV or AIDS;
- a blood thinner;
- cholesterol medication;
- heart or blood pressure medication;
- opioid medication;
- seizure medicine; or
- [tuberculosis](#) medicine.

This list is not complete and many other drugs may affect ticagrelor. This includes prescription and over-the-counter medicines, [vitamins](#), and [herbal products](#). Not all possible [drug interactions](#) are listed here.

 [Ticagrelor drug interactions](#) (more detail)

Does ticagrelor interact with my other drugs?

Enter medications to view a detailed interaction report using our [Drug Interaction Checker](#).

+

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Further information


Remember, keep this and all other medicines out of the reach of children, never share your medicines with others, and use this medication only for the indication prescribed.

Always consult your healthcare provider to ensure the information displayed on this page applies to your personal circumstances.

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DRUG STATUS

Availability		
Rx	Prescription only	
Pregnancy & Lactation		
	Risk data available	
CSA Schedule*		
N/A	Not a controlled drug	▼
Approval History		
	Drug history at FDA	▼

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4.1 / 10

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