

How do I store my tablets?

Do not take your tablets if the expiry date has passed. Keep the tablets in their original packaging and store them in a dry place below 25°C. Keep all medicines well out of the reach of children – it is best to lock them in a cupboard or medicine cabinet.

- **Will rivaroxaban interact with other medicines, food or alcohol?**

Rivaroxaban has fewer potential interactions with other medicines compared with warfarin, and at present there are no known interactions with specific foods or alcohol. There are some medicines that rivaroxaban does interact with so patients should inform their prescriber of the names of all medicines they are taking (including prescription and over-the-counter medicines, vitamins and herbal supplements).

- **Should patients stop taking rivaroxaban if they are going to have a dental or medical procedure?**

Patients should not stop taking rivaroxaban without first talking to their doctor or dentist. Rivaroxaban may need to be stopped for one or more days before any planned surgery, dental or medical procedure.

All patients should be given the rivaroxaban alert card and counseled on the details. This should be carried with them at all times.

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PATIENT INFORMATION LEAFLET

RIVAROXABAN FOR THE TREATMENT OF NON-VALVULAR ATRIAL FIBRILLATION

People with atrial fibrillation (AF) are at increased risk of having a stroke. If you have AF, your doctor should assess your individual risk of a stroke, and discuss with you as to whether you should be started on medication to reduce this risk. This leaflet has been devised to provide information in conjunction with the advice from your doctor.

- **What is rivaroxaban for?**

Rivaroxaban (Xarelto®) is an anticoagulant (like warfarin) used to lower the risk of blood clots developing in patients who have a condition called atrial fibrillation (an abnormal heart beat) as well as other risk factors for stroke. A blood clot which blocks an artery (blood vessel) is called an embolism. If the embolism occurs in the arteries of the brain, it can cause a stroke. Anticoagulants slow down the time it takes for your blood to clot and reduce the risk of these events happening.

- **For patients with non-valvular atrial fibrillation, is it worth changing from warfarin?**

Warfarin has been prescribed for more than 60 years so there is plenty of experience of its clinical use. The clinical trial showed that rivaroxaban is as effective as warfarin. For patients whose warfarin is well controlled, it is probably not advisable to change. For patients who have poor anticoagulant control, a switch to rivaroxaban might be considered.