

Your Medication

Enoxaparin

(Lovenox)



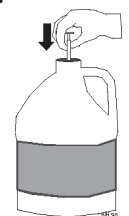
IH-V-197
W. D. 9/02
Pg. 1 of 2

Why do I need this medicine?

This medicine is a “blood-thinner” which helps keep your blood from clotting. You are getting this medicine to help keep blood clots from forming in the big veins in your legs. If these clots form and get into your blood flow, they can get stuck in smaller blood vessels. This block can keep parts of your body from getting blood. You may be given Enoxaparin after surgery, or sometimes for other reasons.

How do I take this medicine?

- Keep this medicine in a safe, dry place where it will not get too hot or cold. Do not keep it in the refrigerator (ice-box).
- The usual dose is two times a day for 7 - 10 days. It may be given for longer.
- This medicine is given by injection (shot). Your health care provider may give it. You may learn to give it to yourself, or have someone else who can learn.
- The medicine needs to be put under your skin (subcutaneous), not into a muscle.
- You can give the shot in your belly (but not in your belly button), your thigh, upper arm, or sometimes other places if your health care provider tells you. Use a different place each time you give a shot. **Wash your hands before you start.**
- Clean your skin with an alcohol pad at the place you will give the shot. Then pinch up the skin, put the needle all the way in, and let go of the skin. Push in the medicine.
- Pull out the needle, and **press** on the place with the alcohol pad. **Do not rub.**
- Throw away the needle in a “sharps container”, **never** in your trash.
- If you miss a dose, take it as soon as you remember. If it is almost time for the next dose, skip the missed dose and go back to your regular schedule. **Do not** take two doses at the same time.



(over)

What common side effects may I have?

- Bleeding
- Pain where you gave the shot
- Tingling
- Weakness or numbness
- Fever
- Nausea (feeling sick to your stomach)
- Swelling
- Trouble thinking
- Trouble urinating (peeing)

If you notice any other side effects, tell your doctor.

Go to the Emergency Room right away if you have:

- Bleeding from any part of your body.
- Trouble breathing.
- Bad pain where you gave the shot.

What special things do I need to know?

1. **Be sure all your health care providers and dentists know that you are taking this medicine.**
2. Talk to your health care provider **before** you take any medicine you can buy without a prescription.
3. Tell your health care provider if you are **allergic to any medicine.**
4. Be sure to **keep your all your appointments** for visits and blood tests.
5. **Do not** share this medicine with anyone.
6. Keep all medicine out of the reach of children. Even a small amount of this medicine may make a child very sick or cause death. Keep all your medicines in a safe place where children cannot get them.
7. If you are pregnant, planning to become pregnant, or breast-feeding, tell your doctor **before** you take this medicine. **This medicine may have harmful effects on unborn babies.** If you are not using birth control, be sure and tell your health care provider.
8. All medicines can cause side effects. Usually, these side effects will get better after a few days. If they do not, you should tell your health care provider. Some changes may be made in the medicine. **Do not** stop taking the medicine unless the health care provider tells you to. Side effects **do not** mean that you are allergic to the medicine.