

DIPYRIDAMOLE

WHAT IT DOES:

Dipyridamole is used to lessen the chance of a clotted hemodialysis access. It is also used to decrease the chance of stroke or other medical problems that may occur when a blood vessel is blocked by blood clots. For example, it is used by people who have had operations to replace a diseased heart valve by a mechanical valve.

HOW IT WORKS:

This medication decreases blood clotting by preventing platelets from sticking together. Platelets are one type of blood cell involved in clotting.

WHAT TO DO IF YOU MISS A DOSE:

If you miss a dose, take the missed dose as soon as you remember. If you do not remember the missed dose until it is time for the next dose (i.e., within 6 hours of your next dose if medication taken as a single daily dose or within 3 hours if medication taken more frequently than once daily), omit the missed dose and resume your regular dosing schedule. **DO NOT DOUBLE YOUR DOSE OR TRY TO “CATCH UP” BY TAKING EXTRA DOSES.**

POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS:

Dizziness, lightheadedness, fainting, flushing, headache, nausea, vomiting or stomach cramps may occur initially, but these effects should lessen with time and usually disappear after a few weeks of continuous use. Dizziness, lightheadedness and fainting can be lessened by getting up slowly. Do not drive a car or operate dangerous machinery if you are dizzy or drowsy on this medication.

Contact your doctor if any of the side effects listed persist or become intolerable. Contact your doctor if you develop a skin rash or fainting spells.

WHY I AM TAKING THIS MEDICINE:
