



# Preparing for your hospital admission

## Medication Information

April 2023

If you take any regular medication (including non-prescription medications) you should discuss this with your doctor.

You may need specific instructions regarding which medications you should cease and which you should continue.

Generally, you should take your regular morning medication at 6.00am with a sip of water. If your procedure is in the afternoon and you usually take your medication at lunchtime, you should take those at 11am with a sip of water.

Exceptions to this are:

### DIABETIC MEDICATIONS

- Patients attending the **Cardiac Catheterisation Laboratory** or **San Radiology & Nuclear Medicine** who are taking the diabetes medication metformin may need to cease metformin 48 hrs prior to certain procedures. Your doctor or nursing staff in these departments will advise if this applies to you.
- **For all patients** – it is important that you discuss diabetes medication instructions with your doctor prior to your procedure.

### ASPIRIN & ANTI-INFLAMMATORY MEDICATIONS

- Patients attending the **Cardiac Catheterisation Laboratory** (eg for coronary angiogram/stent, electrophysiology studies) should continue taking aspirin, clopidogrel (Plavix or Iscover) or warfarin unless instructed otherwise by your cardiologist.
- **All other patients** should cease taking these medicines 10 days prior to your procedure unless you are taking it for your heart or for stroke prevention. If you are taking aspirin, clopidogrel (Plavix or Iscover), warfarin or anticoagulants for a heart condition or stroke prevention, you should seek specific instructions from your surgeon and cardiologist as to when or if these medications should be ceased.
- Patients with coronary artery stents, any vascular stent or cardiac implant should discuss with their cardiologist or surgeon before ceasing the drugs listed above.

### HERBAL (COMPLEMENTARY / ALTERNATIVE) MEDICINES

- If you are having a procedure, you should cease taking these medicines for 10 days prior to your procedure unless otherwise instructed by your doctor.

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