

# Making changes to your current medicines to prepare for surgery

## Pre-operative Assessment

Information for Patients

Produced: June 2021

Review: June 2024

Leaflet number: 179 Version: 1

### Will I need to change my current medicines before my surgery?

This leaflet will be given to you by your nurse after your pre-operative assessment appointment.

As part of your pre-operative assessment the nurse or doctor will review your medicines with you and explain how to take your medicines on the day of your surgery.

Most medicines can be continued up to your surgery although a few may need to be stopped close to the time of surgery. Your nurse will confirm the doctor's instructions at the time of your pre-operative assessment appointment.

<b>Patient label:</b>	
<b>Procedure / surgery:</b>	
<b>Date of surgery:</b>	

**Health information and support is available at [www.nhs.uk](http://www.nhs.uk)  
or call 111 for non-emergency medical advice**

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To give feedback about this information sheet, contact [InformationForPatients@uhl-tr.nhs.uk](mailto:InformationForPatients@uhl-tr.nhs.uk)

After your pre-operative assessment, please continue to take all your regular medicines **except** for the following:

Medication	Dose	Form (tablet, patches)	Advice e.g. last dose

Notes:

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## Patients taking medicines that thin the blood

If you take medicines that thin the blood such as anticoagulant or anti-platelet agents, you will have been given special advice on carrying on or withholding these medicines by your specialist consultant, anaesthetist, or surgeon. This will also be confirmed with you as part of your pre-operative assessment by your nurse.

### General advice for all patients

- On admission, please bring all your medicines into hospital in the original labelled containers as dispensed by your pharmacist. Bring them in the green medicines bag given to you at your pre-operative assessment.
- Please note that some over-the-counter medicines for pain relief, headaches or cold symptoms may thin the blood. These should **not** be taken for 1 week before your surgery, such as Anadin, Anadin Extra, Lemsip, ibuprofen. If you are unsure please check with your pre-operative assessment nurse.
- Please **do not** take any herbal medicines 2 weeks before your surgery. Some herbal medicines may not be stopped suddenly so please ask your pharmacist if you are unsure.

### What if the date of my surgery is changed or cancelled?

If the date of your surgery is changed or cancelled it is important that you ask when you should start any medicines you have been asked to stop. This is very important if you take medicines to thin your blood. The registered nurse can then confirm with your consultant and give advice on restarting any medicines that were stopped.

### Contact details

If you are unsure about any advice you have been given please contact your pre-operative assessment service:

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Out of hours telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Registered Nurse:	
Signature:	
Date and time:	

