



ALERT: Medications to Stop Before Spine Surgery

Some medications and supplements **INCREASE BLEEDING RISK** during spine surgery. In most cases these should be stopped about 10 days before surgery unless your physician gives different instructions.

Important Safety Notes

- Do NOT stop prescription blood thinners without speaking with the doctor who prescribed them.
- These medications may prevent stroke, heart attack, or blood clots.
- This list is not all-inclusive.
- Tylenol (acetaminophen) is usually safe for pain before surgery unless your physician advises otherwise.

If you are unsure whether a medication should be stopped before surgery, please contact our office prior to your procedure and we will review your medication list with you.

| Medication Types | Common Examples |
|--|---|
| Aspirin / Aspirin-Containing Medications | Aspirin, Ecotrin, Bufferin, Excedrin, Anacin, BC Powder / BC Tablets, Alka-Seltzer, Fiorinal, Percodan, Aggrenox |
| Anti-Inflammatory Medications (NSAIDs) | Ibuprofen (Advil, Motrin), Naproxen (Aleve, Naprosyn), Meloxicam (Mobic), Celecoxib (Celebrex), Diclofenac, Indomethacin, Nabumetone (Relafen), Piroxicam (Feldene) |
| Combination Pain / Cold Medications | Coricidin, Dristan, Goody's Headache Powder, Vanquish, Soma, Robaxisal, Norgesic |
| Supplements / Vitamins | Fish Oil / Omega-3, Garlic supplements, Ginkgo biloba, Vitamin E, Herbal supplements |