

Dipyridamole



The Heart Centre

4480 Oak Street, Vancouver, BC V6H 3V4
604-875-2120 • 1-888-300-3088
Emergency call: 604-875-2161
(ask for Cardiologist on call)

www.bcchildrens.ca

What is Dipyridamole (Persantin, Apo-Dipyridamole)?

Dipyridamole (dye-peer-ID-a-mole) is a medication that acts to thin the blood and lessen the risk of blood clots to the brain(stroke), heart or lungs. It works by making the platelets less sticky in the blood. It may be used if you have an artificial heart valve, Berlin heart or after certain types of heart surgery. It may be used alone or with aspirin(ASA).

Dipyridamole comes in tablet and liquid (suspension) form.

How do I give this medicine?

- ▶ Shake well if liquid form
- ▶ Give ___ mL or ___ tablet(s)(= _____mg) _____ times a day by mouth/NG or GT
- ▶ Dipyridamole should be given 1 hour before food or a feeding

How is this medication stored?

- ▶ Keep liquid in fridge
- ▶ Keep tablets at room temperature away from sunlight
- ▶ Keep tablets away from moist and damp places
- ▶ Keep medication out of the reach of small children

What should I do if a dose is missed?

- ▶ Give the missed dose as soon as you remember. You may be able to give the missed dose as soon as you remember. If it is close to the time for the next dose, skip the missed dose-give the next dose at the normal time.
- ▶ Do **not** double up the dose.
- ▶ If your child vomits within 15 minutes after a dose - give a new dose. If longer than 15 minutes then wait until next normal medication time.

Possible common side effects:

- Mild stomach upset
- Flushing
- Headache, dizziness
- Mild bruising or bleeding eg bleeding gums with toothbrushing

Call cardiologist, cardiology clinic or seek care if your child has any of the following:

- ▶ Skin rash or itching
- ▶ Signs of severe bleeding or bruising such as nose bleeds that last for longer than 30 minutes or blood in the stool, urine or vomit

Other notes or special instructions:

- If the child has taken or been given an extra dose and you are worried call Healthlink BC at 811
- If your child accidentally has taken or been given an overdose call:



BC Drug and Poison Centre:

1-800-567-8911 • 604 -682-5050

- ▶ Before any kind of surgery (even dental), tell the doctor or dentist that your child is taking Dipyridamole. They may tell you to stop the medication before the procedure and when to restart it .
- ▶ Check with your doctor or pharmacist before starting any new medications, over the counter, medication, or herbal products.
- ▶ Your child can also take acetaminophen (Tylenol) if needed for pain control or fevers. Don't give ibuprofen (Advil) as it may increase the risk of bleeding while your child is on dipyridamole.
- ▶ Dipyridamole liquid must be made by a specialized pharmacy. Check with your pharmacy that they can make dipyridamole for your child.
- ▶ Check expiry of liquid.