



Fondaparinux sodium (Arixtra[®])

Generic Name: Fondaparinux sodium

Drug Name: Arixtra[®]

Purpose: Fondaparinux sodium (Arixtra[®]) is an anticoagulant or “blood thinner.” “Anti” means against and “coagulant” means clotting, so this medicine makes it harder for your blood to clot. Arixtra[®] is used to treat or prevent blood clots. Speak with your doctor about the reason that you are taking Arixtra[®].

Form: Arixtra[®] comes as a pre-filled injection (shot). The chart below shows the doses and colors of Arixtra[®].

Dose	Color
2.5 mg	Blue
5 mg	Orange
7.5 mg	Magenta (Purplish Red)
10 mg	Violet

How to take:

- Your doctor will tell you how to take your Arixtra[®]. You will be given a prescription for your exact dose and be told how often you should take it. Make sure to follow your doctor’s instructions.
- Arixtra[®] is given as an injection under the skin (subcutaneously) into your stomach.
- To prevent irritation, DO NOT give the injection (shot) in the same site each time.
- To prevent bruising, DO NOT rub the injection (shot) site.
- If you miss a dose, use it as soon as you remember. If it is almost time for your next dose, skip the missed dose and return to your regular schedule. DO NOT take a double dose. Call your doctor about any missed doses.
- Before you leave the hospital, your nurse will teach you or a family member how to give the injection (shot). Make sure that you ask questions and understand how to give yourself the injection (shot) before you go home.
- Give yourself the injection (shot) exactly how you are taught. DO NOT stop using Arixtra[®] until your doctor tells you to do so.
- You will be given a special container for the used syringes (needles) before you leave the hospital. Make sure to put the used syringes in this container. Ask your healthcare team how to get rid of the container when you are done taking Arixtra[®]. **You CANNOT throw the syringes or the plastic container in the garbage!**



Possible Side Effects:

- Mild irritation, pain, bruising, redness or swelling at the injection (shot) site.
- Call your doctor immediately if you have:
 - signs of an allergic reaction:
 - rash or hives
 - itching or swelling especially of the face, tongue or throat
 - severe dizziness
 - trouble breathing
 - tightness in your chest
 - blood in your urine or bowel movements (will be red or black and “tarry”)
 - shortness of breath or trouble breathing
 - vomiting or coughing up blood (looks like “coffee grounds”)
 - unusual bruising or bleeding including heavy menstrual bleeding
 - a sudden severe headache with problems with vision, speech or walking
 - a fever

Important:

- DO NOT take aspirin or ibuprofen while taking Arixtra[®] unless it is prescribed by your doctor.
- DO NOT take herbal products including teas while taking Arixtra[®].
- DO NOT play contact sports while taking Arixtra[®].
- DO NOT drink alcohol while taking Arixtra[®].
- Check the color of your syringes when you get your Arixtra[®] from the pharmacy. Unless your dose has been changed, the color should be the same.