

## Patient information

# Digoxin

The information in this leaflet is intended for general guidance. If your doctor has given you different advice, follow their instructions.

Your GP may give you the same tablets known by a different name – the brand name. You should always check with your GP or pharmacist if you are unsure.

**Examples** Trade names

Digoxin Lanoxin

## What is Digoxin used for and how does it work?

When the rhythm of the two top chambers of the heart (atria) is disturbed (eg. atrial fibrillation or arterial flutter) the efficiency of your heart beat may be reduced, especially if the two bottom chambers of your heart (ventricles) are trying to follow this disturbed rhythm. Digoxin works by slowing the electrical conduction between the atria and ventricles. This has the effect of slowing down and steadying your heart rate and making it beat more strongly and efficiently.

#### Possible side effects

- Loss of appetite and nausea
- Tiredness
- Confusion
- Palpitations
- Blurred vision
- Dizziness

Source: Cardiac Care Unit Reference No: 5770-1 Issue date: 25/4/19 Review date: 25/4/22

Page: 1 of 2



If you have any of these side effects please consult your doctor.

#### What if I miss a dose?

Try to take your digoxin at the same time each day. You can take it a little later than your usual time. If you forget completely carry on with your usual dose the next day. DO NOT take a double dose.

### **General points**

You will be required to have blood tests occasionally to check the digoxin level in your body. According to the blood result, your digoxin dose may vary from 62.5 mcg to 250 mcg daily.

If you would like any information regarding access to the West Suffolk Hospital and its facilities please visit the website for AccessAble (the new name for DisabledGo) <a href="https://www.accessable.co.uk/organisations/west-suffolk-nhs-foundation-trust">https://www.accessable.co.uk/organisations/west-suffolk-nhs-foundation-trust</a>



© West Suffolk NHS Foundation Trust