

Heart Failure Medications: Digoxin

You have been prescribed Digoxin to help manage your heart failure symptoms.

Digoxin is a high alert medication which means if you do not take it exactly as prescribed it may cause illness or injury.

To help you understand what Digoxin does, let's take a look at how the heart normally works.

The heart is a muscle that pumps oxygen and nutrient rich blood through your body.

This steady supply of oxygen and nutrients keeps your cells and tissues healthy.

On average, your heart beats more than 100,000 times a day.

However, when you have heart failure, your weakened heart can't pump enough blood to meet your body's needs.

Taking your Digoxin medication can help.

Digoxin can improve the heart's pumping ability and lower your risk of irregular heartbeats. Digoxin is commonly used with other medications to help your heart failure.

Digoxin includes the medications listed here:...

And some use the name Digitalis for Digoxin.

As with any medication there may be some side effects.

Some common side effects of Digoxin include: abdominal pain; loss of appetite; diarrhea; nausea and vomiting; weakness; confusion; anxiety; headaches; abnormal heart rhythm, dizziness; visual disturbances, including blurred vision, green-yellow color disturbances, or halo effects

If you experience any of these or other side effects, contact your healthcare provider. You may need to have your prescription changed.

If you have difficulty breathing, chest pain, irregular heartbeat, can't swallow, or are lightheaded, immediately call 911 or your emergency response number so an ambulance can be sent.

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Your doctor will monitor your Digoxin levels to make sure the treatment is safe and working well for you.

Taking your Digoxin medication as prescribed is an important part of your heart failure treatment plan. It will help you to feel better and manage your heart failure for the long-term.