Fraxiparin - Use | Dose | Side Effects

Fraxiparin is a medicine that belongs to a group of anticoagulant medicines. This medicine prevents blood clotting and thrombus formation. Blood clot (thrombus) can be very dangerous because it can flip out from the blood vessel and clog the blood vessels in the lungs (which can lead to the pulmonary embolism), blood vessels in the heart (which can lead to heart attack) and blood vessels in the brain which can lead to stroke.

Fraxiparin is used in the following situations:

- Prophylaxis and treatment of deep vein thrombosis
- Prophylaxis of pulmonary embolism
- To prevent formation of blood clots after surgery or hemodialysis
- Treatment of unstable angina and heart attack

**Precautions**

Fraxiparin cannot be used or can be used, only with great caution in the following conditions:

- If you are allergic to Fraxiparin or other similar medicines. Symptoms of an allergic reaction include:
  - skin rash,
  - itching and redness,
  - swelling of the face,
  - tongue,
  - throat,
- neck,
- shortness of breath. If you notice these symptoms, immediately call your doctor.

- Blood clotting disorder.
- Severe hypertension *(high blood pressure)*
- If you have a bleeding problem or if you bleed easily
- Stomach or duodenal ulcer
- Endocarditis
- Thrombocytopenia *(very low platelet count)*
- If you have kidney damage, it is necessary to reduce the dose of Fraxiparin, because this medicine is excreted through the kidneys
- If you have liver damage. These patients can bleed easily.

It should be used with caution in elderly people *(over 65 years)*, because of higher bleeding risk in the elderly. Therefore, elderly should use smaller doses of Fraxiparin.

Avoid activities that can lead to injury and bleeding, because it will be difficult to stop the bleeding.

### Use during pregnancy and lactation

It is not recommended use of Fraxiparin during pregnancy. It should be used during pregnancy only if the benefit to the mother outweighs the risk to the fetus. Unfortunately, Fraxiparin is very often applied in pregnancy, in order to prevent the formation of a thrombus, because thrombus can lead to miscarriage. Animal studies have shown that this medicine have no adverse effects on the fetus, but there is still no valid data of Fraxiparin toxicity in humans.

Breast-feeding is not recommended while you are treated with Fraxiparin. It is not known whether this drug passes into breast milk.

### Use and Dose

It exists only in the form of subcutaneous injection. A subcutaneous injection is administered as a bolus into the subcutis. It cannot be applied intramuscularly. This drug can be applied in health care institutions but it can be given by patients themselves at home. Your doctor will explain how to apply this medicine at home.

The dose depends on the condition and your weight.

Your doctor will decide the dose that will suit you most.

The dose is reduced in patients with impaired liver or kidney function as well as in the elderly.

Fraxiparin should not be used in patients younger than 18 years.

Avoid activities that can lead to injury and bleeding, because it will be difficult to stop the bleeding.

### Overdose

Overdose is treated with antidote-protamine sulfate. If you apply more Fraxiparin than your doctor recommended, contact your doctor immediately to get an injection of protamine.
Overdose can cause serious bleeding.

Use with other medicines (*Interactions*)

Fraxiparin cannot be used or can be used, only with great caution with the following medications:

- Oral anticoagulants such as:
  - warfarin (*Farin*),
  - acenocoumarol and others. Concomitant therapy with these medications increase the risk of bleeding!
- Inhibitors of platelet aggregation such as:
  - clopidogrel,
  - ticlopidine and thrombolytic medications such as:
    - streptokinase and alteplase. Concomitant use of Fraxiparin with these medications increase the risk of bleeding.

Food has no effect on the effects of Fraxiparin.

Side effects

Fraxiparin may cause the following side effects:

1. bleeding,
2. redness and pain at the site of the injection,
3. blurred vision,
4. severe headache,
5. dizziness,
6. confusion,
7. impaired coordination,
8. fatigue,
9. difficulty speaking,
10. liver damage which is manifested as increased liver enzyme levels (*AST and ALT*),
11. bone disorders (*only if Fraxiparin is used for a longer period of time*),
12. thrombocytopenia (*decrease of platelet count in the blood*),
13. eosinophilia (*reduction in the number of eosinophils in the blood*) and others.

The most dangerous side effect of Fraxiparin is bleeding. Tell your doctor if you notice signs of bleeding (*even if you notice bleeding from the gums while brushing your teeth*).

Avoid activities that can lead to injury and bleeding, because it will be difficult to stop the bleeding. If you notice any kind of bleeding, immediately contact your doctor!