

# Converting to Lovenox



## INSTRUCTIONS FOR CONVERTING FROM COUMADIN TO LOVENOX PRIOR TO SURGERY

### Why is it necessary to stop Coumadin?

It is unsafe to have surgery while you are on Coumadin. Coumadin thins your blood which puts you at a high risk for excessive bleeding during a procedure. When Coumadin is stopped, you may be at an increased risk for blood clots; Lovenox helps reduce this risk.

### What is Lovenox?

Lovenox is a blood-thinning or anticoagulant medication used to help reduce the risk of deep vein thrombosis—also known as blood clots. Lovenox is an injection that is given subcutaneously in your abdomen. The most common side effects of Lovenox are mild pain, irritation, bruising, or redness of the skin at the injection site. Lovenox can be given to you at the hospital or you can self-inject at home. Your surgeon and you will decide what the best option is for you. Note: You will need to take your Lovenox injection around the same time each day so choose a time that works well for your schedule.

#### DATE:

5 DAYS BEFORE  
4 DAYS BEFORE  
3 DAYS BEFORE  
2 DAYS BEFORE  
1 DAY BEFORE  
DAY OF SURGERY

#### INSTRUCTION:

Stop Coumadin. Start Lovenox injections.  
Lovenox injection 24 hours after first dose. No Coumadin.  
Lovenox Injection. No Coumadin.  
Lovenox Injection. No Coumadin.  
Lovenox Injection. No Coumadin.  
No Lovenox or Coumadin before surgery. Prior to being dismissed from the hospital you will be given a Lovenox injection. In the evening, restart your regular dose of Coumadin.  
Lovenox injection at scheduled time. Regular dose of Coumadin in the evening.  
Lovenox injection at scheduled time, this will be your last dose of Lovenox. Regular dose of Coumadin in the evening.  
No Lovenox injection. Regular dose of Coumadin in the evening. This will be your schedule from now on.

Follow up with primary care physician to check INR within 1 week.

### Please contact our office if you notice any of the following symptoms:

- Unusual bleeding or bleeding that lasts a long time
- Unusual bruising
- Tingling or numbness (especially in the lower limbs)
- Muscle weakness

### We are always here to help, please do not hesitate to call with any questions or concerns: :

- Dr. Morrissey's office: 620.222.6270
- Dr. Bloedel's office: 620.221.8930
- If after 5:00 PM, call the hospital at 620.221.2300 and ask them to page your surgeon, Dr. Morrissey or Dr. Bloedel

#### NOTES: