

## Information about programs to help you with the cost of your medication:

There are many private and public assistance programs which help patients with the cost of their medication. Some programs offer prescription medication for eligible patients at low or no cost, and others offer prescription savings cards with discounts greater than 60%.

Abbott Laboratories is a proud member of the Partnership for Prescription Assistance (PPA). The Partnership for Prescription Assistance (PPA) can help you determine which program you may qualify for by visiting their web site at [www.pparx.org](http://www.pparx.org) or making a toll-free call to 1-888-477-2669. Calls are accepted in English, Spanish and more than 100 other languages.



## Talk to your doctor about ways to take an active role in your heart health.

- **Stop Smoking.** If you smoke, quitting is the single most important thing you can do to lower your risk of coronary artery disease.
- **Increase your activity and eat a healthy diet.** Your doctor can recommend an activity program tailored for your situation.
- **Manage your stress.** Research has shown that relaxation techniques can improve your ability to cope with stressful events while decreasing your heart rate, blood pressure, and stress hormone levels.

**For a free downloadable medication memory calendar, go to [www.XienceV.com](http://www.XienceV.com).**

Plavix® is a registered trademark of Sanofi-Aventis Corp.

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For more information, visit our web site at [www.XienceV.com](http://www.XienceV.com)



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## Your Antiplatelet Medication:

An **important part** of your treatment after implantation of a stent



**Abbott**  
Vascular

**Abbott**  
A Promise for Life



**Taking your antiplatelet (anti-clotting) medications after you receive your stent reduces the risk of blood clots forming.**

Medications will be prescribed for you before and after stent placement. Antiplatelet medications such as aspirin and Plavix® are the most commonly prescribed. They help prevent a blood clot (thrombus) from forming and blocking the stent lumen. Your doctor or nurse will give you instructions about your medications before you leave the hospital.

To help you remember to take your medications, take them at the same time every day, and place them somewhere you can see them, like your bathroom or kitchen counter.



**Take All Medications Instructed**

After you leave the hospital, your cardiologist will instruct you to take a daily dose of aspirin and another antiplatelet drug such as Plavix®. Your doctor will tell you how long you should continue taking the antiplatelet drugs. It is very important that you take these medications exactly as your doctor instructs you.

**Can I stop taking my medications if I start feeling better?**

Do not stop taking your prescribed medications unless you are instructed to do so by the doctor who performed your stent procedure. Follow your medication schedule exactly to avoid possible complications after you receive your stent. Do not miss any doses. Call your doctor if you cannot keep taking your medications because of side effects such as rash, bleeding, or upset stomach.



**DO NOT STOP taking your antiplatelet medications, even if you are feeling better without talking to your cardiologist first.**

**What if my dentist or another doctor tells me to stop taking aspirin or my antiplatelet (anti-clotting) medication so that I can have another medical procedure?**

Notify your cardiologist or family doctor if you are scheduled to see the dentist while on antiplatelet medication. Your doctor may prescribe antibiotics to avoid the potential of an infection. You should review with your doctor any recommendations from your dentist to stop your prescribed medications.

If surgery or dental work, which would require you to stop taking antiplatelet (anti-clotting) medications, is recommended after you've received the stent, you and your doctors should carefully consider the risks and benefits of this surgery or dental work versus the possible risks from early discontinuation of these medications.

If you do require discontinuation of antiplatelet medications because of significant bleeding, your cardiologist will carefully monitor you for possible complications. Once your condition has stabilized, your cardiologist may put you back on these medications.

