

# Ticagrelor (Brilinta®)

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Ticagrelor (Brilinta®) is a medicine used to prevent unwanted blood clots from forming. It works by preventing platelets (that help clot blood and promote healing) from sticking together.

Taking ticagrelor can significantly reduce your risk of having a heart attack. Your doctor may also prescribe that you take aspirin with this medicine. Follow any instructions you receive.

## How Is It Given?

- tablet (by mouth)

## Possible Side Effects

The most common side effect is bleeding. You may bleed or bruise more easily or for a longer time. You may also have:

- dizziness
- nausea (upset stomach).

## Special Notes

- Before taking the medicine, tell your doctor if you:
  - are pregnant, may become pregnant or breastfeeding
  - take over-the-counter medicines, prescription medicines, herbals, vitamins and nutritional supplements
  - have allergies to any medicine
  - have or have ever had:

- abnormal bleeding, or blood in your stool or urine
- liver disease
- a lung disease such as chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) or asthma
- a stroke
- a stomach ulcer.

- Talk with your doctor about stopping this medicine if you need to have surgery.

## When To Call Your Doctor

Call your doctor right away if you have:

- shortness of breath
- chest pain
- a fast, slow, pounding or irregular heartbeat
- abnormal bleeding or bruising
  - vaginal bleeding that isn't normal
  - nosebleeds that happen often
  - bleeding from the gums
  - bleeding that doesn't stop
- dark or tarry stools
- red, pink or brown urine
- vomit that looks like coffee grounds
- coughing up or throwing up blood.

Talk with your doctor or pharmacist if you have any questions about this medicine.