

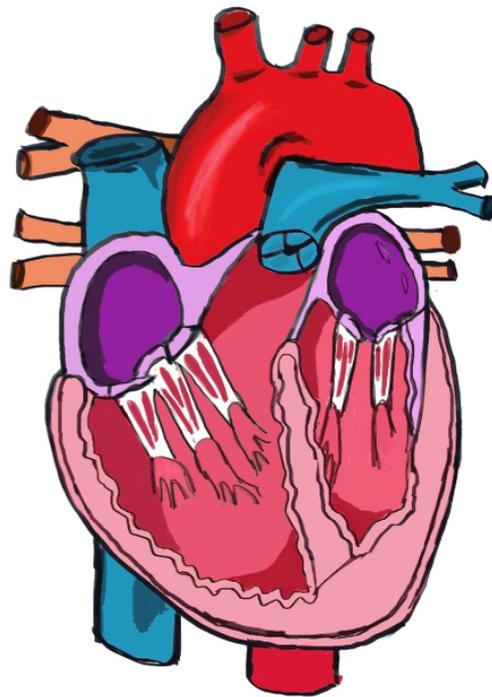


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The Precautions of Digoxin Use



To deliver intelligent and holistic medicine and to provide the best healthcare
Compassion Quality Innovation Accountability

All information above has been reviewed by CVS specialists
Edited and published by the Department of Nursing,
Taichung Veterans General Hospital

1. Objective

Increase cardiac contractility, reduce the heart rhythm and improve heart pumping function.

2. How to take Digoxin ?

	<p>Once a day, please take that medicine at the same time each day.</p>
	<p>Take digoxin after meals for keep blood concentration stable.</p>
	<p>Check concentration of digoxin after 8-24 hours of the last medication. So we suggest that take medicine at night and do blood tests next day.</p>
	<p>Take medicine as prescribe doses. Do not take more or miss doses.</p>

3.How to deal with missed dose ?

If you miss a dose of this medicine, take it as soon as possible.

4. Treatment principles of the side effect.

 <p>The illustration shows two scenes: the top one depicts a person with a distressed expression, sweating, and red lightning bolts indicating pain or dizziness; the bottom one shows a person vomiting into a white toilet bowl.</p>	<p>If you feel fainting, nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain, diarrhea, dizziness, predominance of yellow vision (all objects appear yellow halos around lights) ,etc.</p>
 <p>The illustration features the number '60' in large red font, with a red arrow pointing downwards to its right.</p>	<p>Measure your pulse rate before taking the medicine each time, if it is lower than 60 beats per minute, please suspend the medicine for the day.</p>
 <p>The illustration shows a male doctor in a white lab coat standing in front of a two-story hospital building with blue windows and a blue door.</p>	<p>If the pulse rate is less than 60 beats per minute, combine dizziness, chest tightness, chest pain, night sweats, fainting and cold limbs, please seek medical assistance.</p>

5. How to check heart rate ?

Please measure the pulse rate for one minute by hand each time and record it for assessment.



6. Precautions with combining meal and medicine.

- (1) If taking with diuretics(ex: furosemide, metolazone), that will cause hypokalemia, if you feel weakness, palpitation, confusion of consciousness, that may be the unstable signs of potassium concentration, if the symptoms do not improve, return to hospital immediately. Have food rich of potassium for hypokalemia (orange, tangerine, banana, vegetables) .
- (2) Some medicines such as antacids, medicine for flu, cough, allergy, etc., will affect the efficacy of digoxin, please inform your doctor that you are taking digoxin for adjusting the medicine.
- (3) Do not take some chinese medicine or herbs together, which will cause the drug interaction with digoxin, like "To save the heart", "Ginseng", "Licorice", "Plantain", "Hawthorn". If you want to

take it, please let the doctor know first.

Potassium-containing fruits and food



Orange



Tangerinr



Raisin



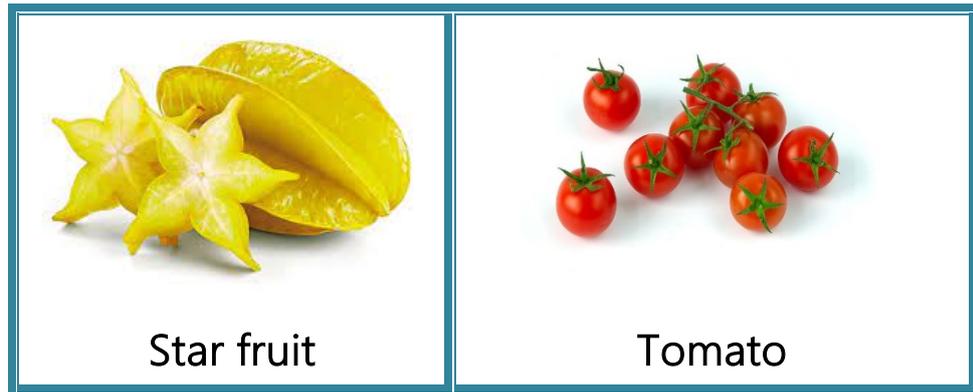
Banana



Spinach



Potato



7. Other Precautions

- (1) Do not drive or operate the machine if you feel dizziness.
- (2) Inform your doctor that you are taking digoxin if you receive any treatments or operations.

8. Conclusion

Before taking digoxin, you must monitor your heartbeat and take the medicine on time. Do not adjust the dosage by yourself. You should know more about the precautions of this medicine to achieve the effect and reduce the occurrence of side effects.

9. Reference

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Let's take a test to confirm that you have a
thorough understanding

1. Take Digoxin at the same time each day.

YES NO Not sure

2. If you miss a dose of Digoxin, take it as soon as possible.

YES NO Not sure

3. If taking Digoxin with diuretics(ex: furosemide, metolazone), that will cause hyperkalemia, if you feel weakness, palpitation, confusion of consciousness, that may be the unstable signs of potassium concentration, you can eat some food less of potassium such as orange, tangerine, banana, vegetables.

YES NO Not sure

4. Measure your pulse rate before taking the medicine each time, if it is lower than 60 beats per minute, please suspend the medicine for the day.

YES NO Not sure

5. Please measure the pulse rate for one minute by hand each time and record it for assessment.

YES NO Not sure