



HELLO,
TĒNĀ KOUTOU KATOĀ,
NOA'IA, MAURI,
NI SA BULA VINAKA,
FAKAALOFA LAHI ATU,
TĀLOFA,
KIA ORANA,
MĀLŌ ELELEI,
MĀLŌ NĪ,
TALOFA LAVA,
AND WARM GREETINGS TO YOU ALL

**This information sheet is for you and your family/whānau/
aiga/kāinga and gives you information about XARELTO®
(Za•REL•toe) also known as rivaroxaban (ri-va-rox-ah-ban).**

This information sheet does not take the place of talking to your doctor or pharmacist. It does not contain all the information that is available but contains important information about taking Xarelto. If you want any more information, or have any concerns about taking Xarelto, talk to your doctor or pharmacist or read the Consumer Medicine Information, available at www.medsafe.govt.nz.

Why am I being treated with Xarelto?

- ◆ Xarelto works by lowering the ability of your blood to form a clot (blood clot).
- ◆ Blood clots can be dangerous. If they get into a blood vessel, they can cause damage and serious health problems, like a stroke.
- ◆ It is common to give Xarelto to people who have a higher risk of getting a blood clot, like if you've just had hip or knee replacement surgery or if you have a condition called non-valvular atrial fibrillation.
- ◆ Xarelto is also given to treat blood clots in your legs or lungs, and to stop them from happening again.
- ◆ Your doctor may have given you Xarelto for another reason. Ask your doctor if you have any questions about why you are taking Xarelto.

How should I take Xarelto?

- ◆ Your doctor will tell you what dose of Xarelto to take. Make sure you follow your doctor's instructions carefully.
- ◆ **Xarelto 15 mg and 20 mg tablets need to be taken with food.**
- ◆ Xarelto 10 mg tablets do not need to be taken with food.
- ◆ Swallow the tablets **whole** with water.
- ◆ If you have trouble swallowing the tablet whole, you can crush the tablet and mix it with water or apple puree just before you take it.
- ◆ Ways to help you remember to take your medication might include taking your Xarelto with your regular meals (e.g. breakfast and/or dinner), setting reminders on your phone, and including your family/whānau/aiga/kāinga for support with taking Xarelto – they can help you remember.

What if I miss a dose?

If you are taking Xarelto once a day

- ◆ Take the tablet you missed as soon as you remember, on the same day. If it is the next day, skip the tablet you missed and carry on as normal.
- ◆ **Do not** take two tablets at the same time.

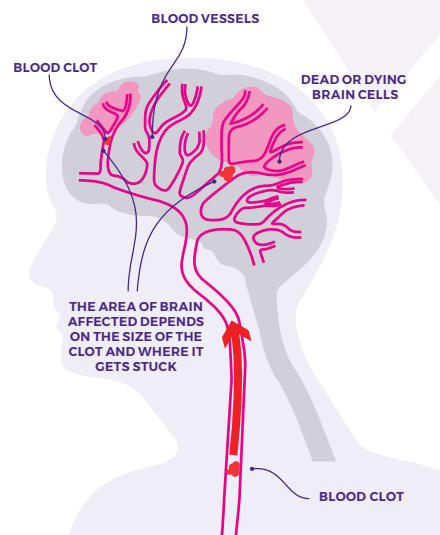
If you are taking Xarelto twice a day

- ◆ Take the tablet you missed as soon as you remember. If you forget to take your morning tablet and it is time for your evening tablet you can take two tablets at the same time.
- ◆ The next day, you should take one tablet in the morning and one tablet in the evening like you would normally do.
- ◆ **Do not** take more than two tablets a day.

What if I take too much (overdose)

Taking too much Xarelto is very dangerous as it increases the risk of bleeding. If you think that you or anyone else may have taken too much Xarelto:

- ◆ Immediately phone your doctor or New Zealand National Poisons Centre on **0800 POISON (0800 764 766)** for advice or go to Accident and Emergency at the nearest hospital.
- ◆ Do this even if there are no signs of discomfort or poisoning.



How a blood clot causes a stroke



Take your 15 mg or 20 mg Xarelto tablet with food

What does Xarelto look like?



Xarelto 10 mg tablets are light red, round, tablets marked with the BAYER-cross on one side and "10" and a triangle on the other side.



Xarelto 15 mg tablets are red, round, tablets marked with the BAYER-cross on one side and "15" and a triangle on the other side.



Xarelto 20 mg tablets are brown-red, round tablets marked with the BAYER-cross on one side and "20" and a triangle on the other side.

While you are taking Xarelto you must

- ◆ Tell all the healthcare professionals you see, like a doctor, dentist, pharmacist or podiatrist (foot doctor), that you are taking Xarelto. This is important as Xarelto could affect other treatments that you have.
- ◆ Remind your doctor and pharmacist that you are taking Xarelto if you are about to take any new medicine including any natural, herbal or traditional medicines (such as Rongoa Māori or Chinese medicines).
- ◆ Immediately tell your doctor if you become pregnant (hapū), are planning to become pregnant or are breastfeeding.

While you are taking Xarelto you must not

- ◆ Stop or change the dose without checking with your doctor first.
- ◆ Give your Xarelto to anyone else, even if they have the same condition as you.
- ◆ Drive or use machinery if Xarelto makes you feel dizzy.

Other medicines

- ◆ Xarelto may interact with other medicines.
- ◆ To ensure your safety, tell your pharmacist or doctor about all medicines you are taking including any that you buy without a prescription from your pharmacy, supermarket or health food shop.

How long do I need to take Xarelto for?

- ◆ Your doctor will decide how long you must take Xarelto for.
- ◆ Take Xarelto **every day unless your doctor tells you to stop**. You may not feel any different on Xarelto, but it is helping you on the inside, protecting you from blood clots or stroke.

What are the possible side effects of Xarelto?

Tell your doctor or pharmacist as soon as possible if you do not feel well while taking Xarelto. Do not be alarmed by the following lists of side effects - you may not experience any of them. Ask your doctor or pharmacist to answer any questions you may have.

Tell your doctor straight away or go to Accident and Emergency at your nearest hospital if any of the following happen:

- ◆ Feeling very weak
- ◆ Unexplained swelling
- ◆ Breathlessness, chest pain
- ◆ Signs of allergy such as rash, swelling of the face or trouble breathing
- ◆ Yellowing of the skin and/or eyes
- ◆ Prolonged or excessive bleeding e.g. from gums or nose bleeds
- ◆ Numbness in the arms and legs
- ◆ Dizziness, fainting
- ◆ Oozing from a surgical wound
- ◆ Vomiting or coughing up blood
- ◆ Blood in the urine or stool
- ◆ Heavy menstrual bleeding
- ◆ Skin condition with severe blisters & bleeding

Tell your doctor as soon as possible about:

- ◆ Tiredness, pale skin & breathlessness
- ◆ Bruising
- ◆ Feeling sick (nausea)
- ◆ Headache
- ◆ Diarrhoea, indigestion or stomach pain
- ◆ Pain in the arms or legs
- ◆ Constipation
- ◆ Fever
- ◆ Frequent infections such as severe chills, sore throat and mouth ulcers
- ◆ Mild rash, itchy skin
- ◆ Fast heart beat



Xarelto has risks and benefits. Use strictly as directed. If symptoms continue or if you have side effects, see your doctor pharmacist or healthcare professional. Ask your doctor if Xarelto is right for you. Xarelto is a fully funded medicine for prevention of blood clots after a hip or knee replacement operation, prevention of blood clots in your brain (stroke) and/or other blood vessels in your body if you have non-valvular atrial fibrillation, for treatment of deep vein thrombosis and pulmonary embolism and to prevent blood clots from re-occurring in your legs and/or lungs - restrictions apply. Normal doctor visit and prescription fees apply. For more information read the Consumer Medicines Information. The most current version is available from www.medsafe.govt.nz or Bayer New Zealand Ltd, B:HIVE, Smales Farm, 74 Taharoto Road, Takapuna, Auckland 0622. Telephone 0800 233 988. PP-XAR-NZ-0108-1. TAPS NA 12363. September 2020.