

ST VINCENTS IR MEDICATION & LAB GUIDELINES (2025)

Updated
4/16/2026

- These are general guidelines. A Radiologist may choose to deviate from these guidelines on a case by case basis (physician experience, patient comorbidities, thrombosis risk, presence of multiple blood thinners, liver/renal dysfunction).

PROCEDURES with LOWER RISK of BLEEDING

- **Superficial** - thyroid nodule FNA, all breast procedures, biopsy/aspiration/drainage of superficial/palpable lesion (including cervical/supraclavicular/axillary/inguinal lymph node and salivary lesion), lymphoscintigraphy
- **Miscellaneous** - thoracentesis, paracentesis, chest tube placement/removal, tunneled pleural/peritoneal drain (Aspira/Pleurx) placement/removal, drainage catheter exchange/removal (abscess/chest/biliary/nephrostomy), gastrostomy/gastrojejunostomy exchange/conversion/removal, transjugular liver biopsy
- **MSK** - joint injection/aspiration/arthrogram (including SI joint), bone marrow biopsy, extremity mass/lesion/bone biopsy
- **Neuro** - lumbar puncture, myelogram, peripheral nerve block, sacral lateral branch block
- **Vascular** - nontunneled/tunneled venous catheter placement/removal (including chest port), IVC filter placement and uncomplicated removal, diagnostic angiography/venography, arterial embolization (including bland/chemo/radio/UAE), peripheral arterial intervention, pelvic or extremity venous intervention, dialysis access intervention

Laboratory Parameters

- **Platelets $\geq 20k$** - Not routinely checked.
All bone marrow biopsy patients require CBC with differential the day of the procedure.
- **INR $\leq 2.0-3.0$** - Not routinely checked (unless there is concern for supratherapeutic INR / coumadin therapy).
- **BMP** - Only checked in patients with history of renal disease who are to receive conscious sedation or general anesthesia.

PROCEDURES with HIGER RISK of BLEEDING

- **Miscellaneous** - biopsy/aspiration/drainage of intrathoracic/abdominal/pelvic lesion, biliary/cholecystostomy/nephrostomy tube placement, gastrostomy/gastrojejunostomy placement, radiofrequency/microwave/cryoablation
- **Neuro** - cervical/thoracic/lumbar spine disc/facet/epidural procedure (excluding LP/myelogram), kyphoplasty/vertebroplasty
- **Vascular** - portal vein intervention (including TIPS), complex IVC filter removal, pulmonary embolus thrombectomy, catheter directed thrombolysis, non peripheral arterial intervention (aortic/pelvic/mesenteric/CNS), intrathoracic and CNS venous intervention

Laboratory Parameters

- **CBC Platelets $\geq 50k$** - Checked for all patients (generally within 72 hrs).
- **INR $\leq 1.5-1.8$** - Checked for all patients (generally within 72 hrs).
- **PTT $\leq 1.5 \times$ control** - Not routinely checked.
- **BMP** - Only checked in patients with history of renal disease who are to receive conscious sedation or general anesthesia.
- **Platelet Function Assay** - Not recommended for renal procedures.

BLOOD THINNER HOLDING BASED on BLEEDING RISK

	Lower Risk Procedures		Higher Risk Procedures	
	Hold	Resume	Hold	Resume
Aspirin (all strengths)	no hold	immediately	3-5 days	24 hrs
Ibuprofen (Motrin) Diclofenac (Voltaren) Ketoprofen (Orudis)	no hold	immediately	12-24 hrs	immediately
Ketorolac (Toradol)	no hold	immediately	24 hrs	immediately

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	Hold	Resume	Hold	Resume
Indomethacin (Indocin)	no hold	immediately	2 days	immediately
Etodolac (Lodine)				
Diffunisal (Dolobid)	no hold	immediately	2-3 days	immediately
Naproxen (Aleve)	no hold	immediately	3-4 days	immediately
Sulindac (Clinoril)				
Meloxicam (Mobic)	no hold	immediately	4 days	immediately
Nabumetone (Relafen)	no hold	immediately	6 days	immediately
Piroxicam (Feldene)	no hold	immediately	10 days	immediately
Celecoxib (Celebrex)	no hold	immediately	no hold	immediately
Cilostazol (Pletal)				
Heparin	no hold	immediately	4-6 hrs (IV) 6 hrs (SQ)	6-8 hrs
Enoxaparin (Lovenox)	no hold	immediately	12 hrs (if once daily) 24 hrs (if twice daily)	12 hrs
Dalteparin (Fragmin)	no hold	immediately	24 hrs	12 hrs
Warfarin (Coumadin)	hold until INR ≤ 3.0	immediately	hold until INR ≤ 1.8	24 hrs
Clopidogrel (Plavix)	no hold	immediately	5 days	6 hrs (75 mg dose) 24 hrs (higher dose)
Ticagrelor (Brilinta)	no hold	immediately	5 days	24 hrs
Prasugrel (Effient)	no hold	immediately	7 days	24 hrs
Aspirin/Dipyridamole (Aggrenox)	no hold	immediately	3-5 days	24 hrs
Fondaparinux (Arixtra)	no hold	immediately	2-3 days (GFR ≥ 50) 3-5 days (GFR < 50)	24 hrs
Argatroban (Acova)	no hold	immediately	2-4 hrs	4-6 hrs
Bivalirudin (Angiomax)	no hold	immediately	2-4 hrs	4-6 hrs
Apixaban (Eliquis)	no hold	immediately	2 days (GFR ≥ 50) 3 days (GFR < 50)	24 hrs
Dabigatran (Pradaxa)	no hold	immediately	2 days (GFR ≥ 50) 3-4 days (GFR < 50)	24 hrs
Rivaroxaban (Xarelto)	no hold	immediately	2 days (GFR ≥ 30) 3 days (GFR < 30)	24 hrs
Betrixaban (Bevyxxa)	no hold	immediately	3 days	24 hrs
Edoxaban (Savaysa)	no hold	immediately	2 days	24 hrs
Ticlopidine (Ticlid)	72 hrs	24 hrs	7 days	24 hrs
Desirudin (Iprivask)	no hold	1 hr	4 hrs	1 hr
Abciximab (ReoPro)	24 hrs	per Cardiology	24 hrs	per Cardiology
Eptifibatide (Integrilin)	4-8 hrs	per Cardiology	4-8 hrs	per Cardiology
Tirofiban (Aggrastat)				

Non aspirin NSAIDs held for approximately 5 half lives (only for higher-risk procedures).

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GLP/GLP-1 & SGLT-2 HOLD TIMES for GENERAL ANESTHESIA CASES

24 Hour Hold		4 Day Hold		7 Day Hold
Brynovin	Saxagliptin	Bexagliflozin	Invokana	Bydureon BCise
Byetta	Saxenda	Brenzavvy	Jardiance	Dulaglutide
Exenatide	Sitagliptin	Canagliflozin	Qtern	Mounjaro
Janumet	Soliqua 100/33	Dapagliflozin	Segluromet	Ozempic
Januvia	Tradjenta	Empagliflozin	Steglatro	Tirzepatide
Jentadueto	Victoza	Ertugliflozin	Steglujan	Trulicity
Liraglutide	Xultophy 100/3.6	Farxiga	Synjardy	Wegovy
Lixisenatide	Zituvimet	Glyxambi	Trijardy	Zepbound
Rybelsus	Zituvio	Invokamet	Xigduo XR	

DIABETIC MEDICATION INSTRUCTIONS

- Do not take any oral diabetes medications the morning of the procedure.
- Do not take short-acting insulin the morning of the procedure.
- Take only half the usual dose of long-acting insulin the evening before the procedure. Do not take long-acting insulin the morning of the procedure.
- Monitor blood glucose throughout the day and take glucose tablets as needed.
- If a insulin pump is being used, contact endocrinologist for further instructions.

PATIENTS with CHRONIC LIVER DISEASE

- Recommended laboratory parameters:
Lower Risk Procedures - platelets >20k, INR not applicable, fibrinogen >100
Higher Risk Procedures - platelets >30k, INR <2.5, fibrinogen >100
- Give 10 mg vitamin K slow IV if INR > 2.5.
- Give 1 dose (body weight <80 kg) or 2 doses (body weight >80 kg) cryoprecipitate when fibrinogen <100.
- Platelet and PT/INR levels are not predictive of bleeding risk in CLD patients.
- CLD patients with a given set of platelet/INR values are at decreased bleeding risk compared with a normal patient with the same lab values.
- Patients with CLD have almost twice the thrombotic risk as the general population.
- Platelet aggregation function is enhanced in CLD patients.
- The 2013 AASLD revised practice guideline for the management of adult patients with ascites caused by cirrhosis determined that the routine administration of blood products before paracentesis in patients with cirrhosis and coagulopathy is not data-supported.