

Heart Care Medication Information

Commonly Prescribed Heart Medications

Medication	Information
aspirin	Prevents heart attacks and strokes
diuretic	“Water pill” for managing excess fluid in ankles, lungs, and abdomen
digoxin	Decreases likelihood of needing treatment in a hospital
nitroglycerin	Used for chest discomfort (heart pain or angina) and sudden shortness of breath—increases the flow of blood to the heart
potassium	Replaces potassium lost from taking the diuretic or “water pill”
“statin”	Lowers cholesterol, prevents heart attacks and strokes
warfarin	Prevents strokes and other blood clots—most often used for patients with abnormal heart rhythm called atrial fibrillation

Medications for People with Systolic Heart Failure (Weak Heart)

Medication	Information
angiotensin-converting enzyme (ACE) inhibitor	Improves heart muscle function, controls blood pressure, and contributes to a longer, healthier life
beta blocker	Improves heart muscle function, controls blood pressure, stabilizes heart rhythm, and contributes to a longer, healthier life
angiotensin II receptor blocker (ARB)	Used for people who experience side effects with ACE inhibitors
aldosterone antagonist	“Water pill” and hormone blocker used for some patients