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CLOPIDROGEL - ORAL

OTHER NAMES: Plavix

USES: This medication is used to help prevent heart attacks, strokes and other problems caused by narrowed blood vessels ("hardening of the arteries").

HOW TO USE THIS MEDICATION: Take this medicine as directed, generally once daily by mouth, with or without food.

SIDE EFFECTS: Stomach pain, diarrhea, headache or dizziness might occur. If these effects persist or worsen, notify your doctor promptly.

Unlikely but report promptly black stools, "coffee-ground" appearing vomit, chest pain, swelling, unusual bleeding or bruising, trouble breathing, rash or itching.

Very unlikely but report promptly fever or persistent sore throat, mood changes, vision problems or fainting.

PRECAUTIONS: Before using this drug, tell your doctor your medical history, including any allergies (especially drug allergies), ulcers, abnormal bleeding or blood disorders, serious injury, recent surgery or liver disease.

Limit alcohol intake, as it may aggravate certain side effects of this medicine, especially stomach bleeding.

Use caution operating machinery or performing hazardous tasks as this medicine can cause dizziness.

Tell your doctor if you are pregnant before using this medication.

It is not known whether this drug is excreted into breast milk. Breast-feeding is not recommended while using this medicine. Consult your doctor before breast-feeding.

DRUG INTERACTIONS: Tell your doctor of all nonprescription and prescription medication you may use, especially aspirin or NSAIDs ("aspirin-like" drugs such as ibuprofen or naproxen), "blood-thinners" (e.g., warfarin, heparin, enoxaparin). Also, report use of phenytoin, tamoxifen, tolbutamide, torsemide or fluvastatin.

NOTES: Do not share this medicine with others.

Inform all doctors and dentists involved in your care about your use of this drug.

MISSED DOSE: If you miss a dose, use it as soon as you remember. If it is near the time of the next dose, skip the missed dose and resume your usual dosing schedule. Do not "double-up" the dose to catch up.

STORAGE: Store at room temperature between 59 and 86 degrees F (15-30 degrees C) away from sunlight and moisture.

Your condition can cause complications in a medical emergency. For information on enrollment call Medic Alert (TM) at 1-800-854-1166. In Canada call 1-800-668-1507.