

## Medication Information

This sheet is provided as an overview about some of the new medications your surgeon may order for you while you are in the hospital. Please ask your nurse any questions you may have about these medications, or any other medication.

Medications	Information and Side Effects
Multivitamin	Given to supplement dietary intake of needed vitamins and minerals. <b>Possible Side Effects: facial flushing, nausea, constipation.</b>
Iron (Ferrous Sulfate)	Used to treat anemia or blood loss during surgery. NEVER take on an empty stomach. <b>Possible Side Effects: nausea constipation, vomiting, or rash. May also cause your stool to be dark, or black.</b>
Zofran	Used to prevent or treat nausea and vomiting after surgery. <b>Possible Side Effects: Headache, dizziness, constipation.</b>
Phenergan	Used to prevent or treat nausea and vomiting after surgery. <b>This is used only if Zofran is not successful.</b> <b>Possible Side Effects: drowsiness, dizziness, headache.</b>
Pepcid	Used to prevent and treat reflux. <b>Possible Side Effects: headache, constipation, diarrhea.</b>
Lortab (Hydrocodone, Vicodin)	Used to control pain. Best to take this medication with food to prevent upset stomach. <b>Possible Side Effects: feeling faint or lightheaded, drowsiness, nausea, constipation, itching, or difficulty breathing.</b>
Dilaudid (Hydromorphone)	Used to control pain. Best to take this medication with food to prevent upset stomach. <b>Possible Side Effects: feeling faint or lightheaded, drowsiness, nausea, constipation, itching, or difficulty breathing.</b>
Percocet (Oxycodone, Roxycodone, roxicet) Immediate Release	Used to control pain. Best to take this medication with food to prevent upset stomach. <b>Possible Side Effects: feeling faint or lightheaded, drowsiness, nausea, constipation, itching, or difficulty breathing.</b>
Oxycontin (oxycodone) Extended Release	Used to control pain. Used for continuous pain relief. Do not crush or break tablets. Doses should be separated by 8-12 hours. <b>Possible Side Effects: feeling faint or lightheaded, drowsiness, nausea, constipation, sweating, dry mouth, headache, itching, or difficulty breathing.</b>

Morphine (intravenous) MS Contin (extended release)	Used to control pain. Used Intravenously for immediate relief of post op pain. May be used orally for more continuous pain relief. Do not crush or break tablets. Doses should be separated by 8- 12 hours. <b>Possible Side Effects: feeling faint or lightheaded, drowsiness, nausea, constipation, sweating, dry mouth, headache, itching, or difficulty breathing.</b>
Steroids	Used to help with inflammation after surgery. This medication may increase your blood sugar levels. For this reason, your physician may prescribe other medications to help regulate your blood sugar levels to help with the healing process. <b>Possible Side Effects: increase blood sugar levels, flushed or warm feeling, headache, anxiety, increased appetite</b>
Coumadin, Aspirin, or other blood thinners (Xarelto, Lovenox)	A blood thinner is given to prevent blood clot formation after surgery. Take a daily dose at the same time each day, or as prescribed by your physician. Avoid other medications that increase bleeding risks, such as ibuprophen , herbal products, or other blood thinners. <b>Possible Side Effects: bleeding, bruising, feeling cold, or headache.</b>
Muscle Relaxers Robaxin, Valium	Used to help relax muscles and prevent muscle spasms after surgery. <b>Possible Side Effects: drowsiness, dizziness, feeling faint or lightheaded, nausea, or difficulty breathing.</b>
Stool Softener Colace	Used to prevent or treat constipation. Available over the counter. <b>Possible Side Effects: diarrhea</b>
<b>Routine Medications</b>	It is very important that you follow your physician’s instructions about your Routine Home Medications before surgery. If you have any questions, please contact your primary care physician, or your surgeon. <b>PLEASE NOTE:</b> In some cases, some of your routine medications may be withheld <b>after</b> surgery by your physician to avoid unwanted reactions. <b>Some examples are: Blood pressure, anti- anxiety, some pain medications, vitamins, and herbal products.</b> If you have any questions, please ask your physician.