

## ■ How does this antifibrinolytic drug work?

Tranexamic acid (Cyklokapron)

- is a drug that helps to hold a clot in place long enough for healing.
- does NOT help a clot to form.
- is only helpful once a clot has formed.
- CANNOT be used instead of desmopressin or factor replacement.

## ■ When can this drug be used?

It can be used to help hold a clot in place where there is a "mucous membrane". This is soft, thin skin on your body found in:

- the inside of your mouth
- the inside of your nose
- inside your intestines (or gut)
- inside your uterus (or womb)

This drug may be used if you expect to bleed when you go to the dentist. It can also help a woman who is bleeding heavily during her menstrual period.

## ■ What do I need to know before I use this drug?

Get in touch with your treatment centre before you use tranexamic acid. Tell your doctor or nurse about all other medicines you are taking. Some drugs and some factor concentrates cannot be used with tranexamic acid.

## ■ When should I NOT use this drug?

- Tranexamic acid will NOT help bleeding in joints.
- It should NOT be taken if you have blood in your urine. The reason is that a blood clot could cause a blockage in the urinary tract.

## ■ How will I take this drug?

- You can take it by mouth, in the form of pills or mouth wash. Most people take it for 5-7 days.
- If you find it hard to swallow pills, you can crush the pills and add them to food or liquids, such as juice.
- Another way of taking this drug is by vein. This approach may be used prior to surgery.
- The amount you need now may not be the same as what you took before. For this reason, always check your dose carefully.

## ■ Are there any side effects?

Side effects are rare. Some mild side effects are:

- nausea
- feeling tired or sleepy
- feeling dizzy
- diarrhea
- having pain in your stomach

These mild side effects usually go away and if not, you may be advised to take the medication with food.

Or after consulting the doctor at the clinic, you may be advised to:

- stop taking tranexamic acid, OR
- take less tranexamic acid.

## ■ For more information

Get in touch with your treatment centre if you have questions about tranexamic acid. You can also ask questions about your bleeding disorder.

**TREATMENT CENTRE:**

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**DOCTOR'S PHONE NUMBER(S):**

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**NURSE'S PHONE NUMBER(S):**

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## ■ Acknowledgements

The text was revised by members of the Canadian Association of Nurses in Hemophilia Care (CANHC):



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## ■ The Canadian Hemophilia Society

The Canadian Hemophilia Society (CHS) strives to improve the health and quality of life for all people with inherited bleeding disorders and to find a cure.

The CHS consults qualified medical professionals before distributing any medical information. However, the CHS does not practice medicine and in no circumstances recommends particular treatment for specific individuals. Brand names of treatment products are provided for information only. Their inclusion is not an endorsement of a particular product or company. In all cases, it is strongly recommended that individuals consult a hemophilia-treating physician before pursuing any course of treatment.

For further information, please contact:

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## TRANEXAMIC ACID

# Cyklokapron

## A Guide for Patients and their Caregivers

CYKLOKAPRON



Canadian Hemophilia Society  
Help Stop the Bleeding

[www.hemophilia.ca](http://www.hemophilia.ca)