

# Balloon Notes

Caring for your child.



## Enoxaparin (Lovenox®): Questions and Answers

### What is enoxaparin?

Enoxaparin is also called Lovenox®. Enoxaparin makes it harder for blood to form clots. A clot is when the blood sticks together. This medicine treats clots or stops clots from forming.

### How do I give enoxaparin to my child?

You will give this medication as a shot into the fatty area under your child's skin. Give the shot in a different spot each time. Give the shot exactly as directed by your doctor and at the same time every day.

### What do I do with used syringes and needles?

Throw away used needles and syringes in a hard, closed container. You can buy a sharps container at local pharmacy or use a thick plastic container from home, such as an empty laundry detergent container.

### What are the side effects of enoxaparin?

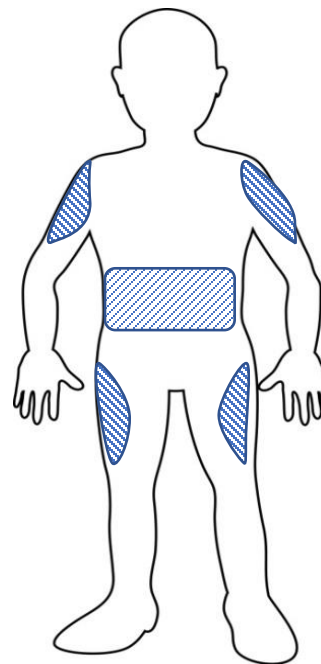
Your child may bleed or bruise more easily. Your child might also have mild pain, bruising, irritation, and small lumps where you give the shot.

### If your child has any of these signs, call your child's clinic\* right away:

*\*See contact information on the next page*

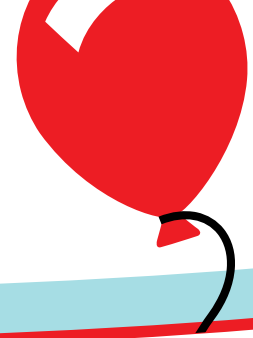
- Feeling faint or light headed
- Nosebleeds lasting longer than 20 minutes with pressure
- Blood in their vomit
- Vomit that looks like coffee grounds
- Pink or brown urine
- Red or black poop
- Heavier or longer menstrual periods

**Where to give the shots:**  
Back of arms, thighs or  
stomach



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### Go to the nearest emergency room if your child has:

- A very bad headache
- Difficulty talking or weakness on one side of the body
- Serious injury to other parts of the body
- A head injury
- Chest pain or difficulty breathing
- Bleeding that does not stop after applying pressure for 20 minutes

### What do I do if my child misses a dose?

- If it is **less** than four hours late, **GIVE** the dose
- If it is **more** than four hours late, **CALL** your child's clinic



### It is important to give your child enoxaparin every day

Skipping or missing a dose may make enoxaparin not work as well

### What do I do if my child is running out of enoxaparin?

Call your pharmacy to ask for a refill 5 days before your child runs out of enoxaparin. Call your child's clinic right away if you have trouble with refills.

### What tests does my child need while taking enoxaparin?

Your child needs to have regular blood tests called enoxaparin levels or anti-Xa levels. This level is measured by drawing blood from your child. The result is used to make sure that enoxaparin level is in a safe range.



### Be sure to keep all follow-up and laboratory appointments

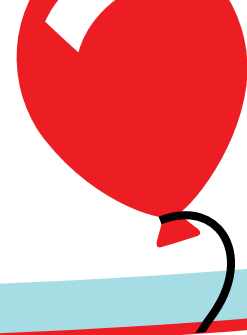
Your doctor will need to check your child's blood work regularly  
The blood test must be drawn 4 hours after the shot

### What drugs or foods should my child avoid while taking enoxaparin?

Some medications can make your child bleed easier while on enoxaparin. Call your child's clinic before starting any over-the-counter medications, dietary or herbal supplements. Avoid ibuprofen (Advil® or Motrin®), naproxen (Aleve®), and aspirin (unless discussed with your child's clinic). Your child does not need to avoid any kind of food while taking enoxaparin.

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### What else should I know about enoxaparin?

- Avoid contact sports like football, boxing, or dodgeball
- Tell your child's dentist and other doctors that your child is on enoxaparin
- Let your child's clinic know if you have any dental work or surgeries planned for your child
- Do not stop giving enoxaparin without talking to your child's clinic

### Who do I call about my child's enoxaparin?

- Contact the doctor that manages your child's lovenox

The Heart Center	The Center for Cancer and Blood Disorders (CCBD) Hemophilia and Thrombosis Program
Monday through Friday 8am – 5pm Phone: 214-456-2333 Fax: 214-456-8130	Monday through Friday 7:30am – 4:30pm Phone: 214-456-2379 Fax: 214-456-8469
For questions outside of clinic hours, follow the clinic's instructions to page the doctor on-call.	