

Enoxaparin (Lovenox®), Dalteparin (Fragmin®) and Fondaparinux (Arixtra®) Self-injection for Adults

Surgical Oncology

Lovenox®, Fragmin®, and Arixtra® are medicines to stop clots from forming in your blood. You give these medicines with an injection. The injection delivers the medicine into the fat below the skin. This is called a subcutaneous (SC or SQ) injection. Your nurse will show you how to give the injection. The steps below also explain the process.

Special Instructions

Supplies You Will Need

- Pre-filled Syringe (Figure 1)
- Alcohol swabs



Figure 1
(©MD Anderson Cancer Center)

Home Care

How to Give the Injection

1. Wash your hands for 20 seconds.
2. Sit or lie in a comfortable position. Choose a place on your abdomen at least 2 inches from your belly button. (Figure 2)
3. Clean the area of your skin with an alcohol swab and let it air dry.
4. Firmly pull the needle cap off and throw it away.



Figure 2
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Enoxaparin (Lovenox®), Dalteparin (Fragmin®) and Fondaparinux (Arixtra®): Self-Injection for Adults and Children. The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center ©2000

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5. To make sure you receive the full dose of medicine, do not push out the air bubbles from the syringe before the injection.
6. Gently pinch up the clean area of skin. (Figure 3)
7. Hold the needle like a pencil. Quickly insert it at a 90-degree angle into the fold of skin. (Figure 3) Push the whole length of the needle into the skin.
8. Push the plunger slowly until the syringe is empty or to a specific dose as directed by your health care team.
9. Pull the needle straight out and let go of the skin fold.
10. If there is bleeding, press a tissue on the site until the bleeding stops. Do not rub the site.
11. Your syringe may have a safety shield. If there is a safety shield, push the plunger down after removing the needle until you hear a click. The safety shield covers the needle.
12. Discard (throw away) the needle in a safe place, like a sharps container. This may be purchased at your local pharmacy.
13. Each time you give the injection, change the location on your abdomen.



Figure 3
(©MD Anderson Cancer Center)

Never re-use needles. Never share needles. Always discard after one use.

Follow-up Care

Call your doctor or nurse if you develop an enlarging knot/bruise, redness at an injection site which blanches or keeps spreading, you become pale, lightheaded, or dizzy, or if you have blood in your stool (or tarry black stool).

Emergency Center

In case of any emergency, call 911 or go to the nearest emergency center. *For non-emergencies during business hours, call our triage line at 904-202-7300 option 3.*