

The Transplant Center

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Diuretics Medication Information

Why would I have to take diuretics post-transplant?

Some of the medications we give you after your transplant such as prednisone may cause you to retain excess fluid. Diuretics are used to remove excess fluid from your body. Removing the excess fluid will make you more comfortable and will also help in lowering your blood pressure.

What are the names of the diuretics that I may have to take after my transplant?

The most common diuretics (fluid pills) used are Lasix® (furosemide) HCTZ (hydrochlorothiazide), Demadex® (torsemide) Bumex® (bumetanide) and Zaroxolyn® (metolazone).

What additional information do I need to know about diuretics?

The dosing of these agents vary on a case to case basis, follow the directions your doctor gives you closely as to how to take these medications. Do not start or stop taking these medications without your doctor telling you to do so. You may have to take potassium supplements in addition to your diuretics because some of them cause your body to lose potassium. You should take your diuretics early in the day to prevent you having to get up several times a night to go to the bathroom. Try not to take doses after 6 pm.

How long will I have to take diuretics?

Diuretics are only taken on an as needed basis. Your doctor will tell you when to start and stop these medications.

Do diuretics interact with any other drugs?

No, diuretics do not affect the levels of the other drugs you will be taking.

What are the side effects of diuretics?

Some of the side effects seen with diuretics include; dizziness, low blood pressure, light-headedness, dehydration, more frequent urination and low potassium.

Please direct your medication questions to
your transplant coordinator or transplant pharmacist.