

# Agrylin (anagrelide) basics

**Lowers platelet count.** Agrylin (anagrelide) is effective at lowering platelet counts in certain cancers, which decreases risk of blood clots, heart attack, and stroke, but it should be used with caution in people with heart conditions.

## What to expect when starting

Here's when people typically experience benefits as well as some possible side effects. Your experience may be different.

	Hours	Days	Weeks	Months	Long term
<b>Agrylin (anagrelide)</b> Drug effectiveness		[Blue bar indicating effectiveness from Day 1 to Month 3]			
<b>Possible side effects</b>					
<b>Palpitations</b> 26% chance		[Red bar indicating side effect from Day 1 to Month 3]			
<b>Weakness</b> 23% chance		[Red bar indicating side effect from Day 1 to Month 3]			
<b>Swelling</b> 21% chance		[Red bar indicating side effect from Day 1 to Month 3]			
<b>Diarrhea</b> 26% chance	[Red bar indicating side effect from Hour 1 to Day 1]				
<b>Headache</b> 44% chance	[Red bar indicating side effect from Hour 1 to Day 1]				
<b>Nausea</b> 17% chance	[Red bar indicating side effect from Hour 1 to Day 1]				

## Tips from pharmacists

- Agrylin (anagrelide) can be taken with or without food.
- Whilst taking Agrylin (anagrelide) you may bleed more easily. Be careful and avoid injury. Use a soft toothbrush and an electric razor.
- To gain the most benefit from Agrylin (anagrelide), do not miss a dose. If you miss a dose take it as soon as you remember. However, if the missed dose is close to the time of your next scheduled dose, skip the missed dose and continue your regular routine.
- Protect Agrylin (anagrelide) from light. Store at room temperature, in a dry place. Do not store it in the bathroom.
- If you have a heart condition, such as an abnormal heart beat, be sure your doctor knows about this.

## Risks and warnings

Contact your doctor if you experience any of these.

### Bleeding risk

While taking Agrylin (anagrelide), you are at a higher risk of bleeding. Use of Agrylin (anagrelide) with aspirin can increase your risk of bleeding as well. Your doctor will likely assess your risks of bleeding before initiating treatment with this medication. You should monitor for signs and symptoms of bleeding, such as bruises, bleeding gums, dark, tarry stools and blood in your urine. Contact your doctor immediately if you notice these symptoms.

### Lung damage

Agrylin (anagrelide) can cause lung damage and patients can begin to experience shortness of breath or difficulty breathing. These symptoms can begin as early as 1 week to several years after starting Agrylin (anagrelide). If you notice these symptoms, contact your doctor immediately. Your doctor will likely stop treatment with Agrylin (anagrelide) and find you an alternative.

### Heart damage

Agrylin (anagrelide) shouldn't be used if you have known risk factors for QT interval prolongation. Your doctor will likely give you a pre-treatment heart exam, including an ECG in all patients. Moreover, during treatment, you will likely be monitored for adverse effects on the heart. If you have a liver problem, you are at a higher risk of heart toxicity due to the accumulation of the drug in your body.