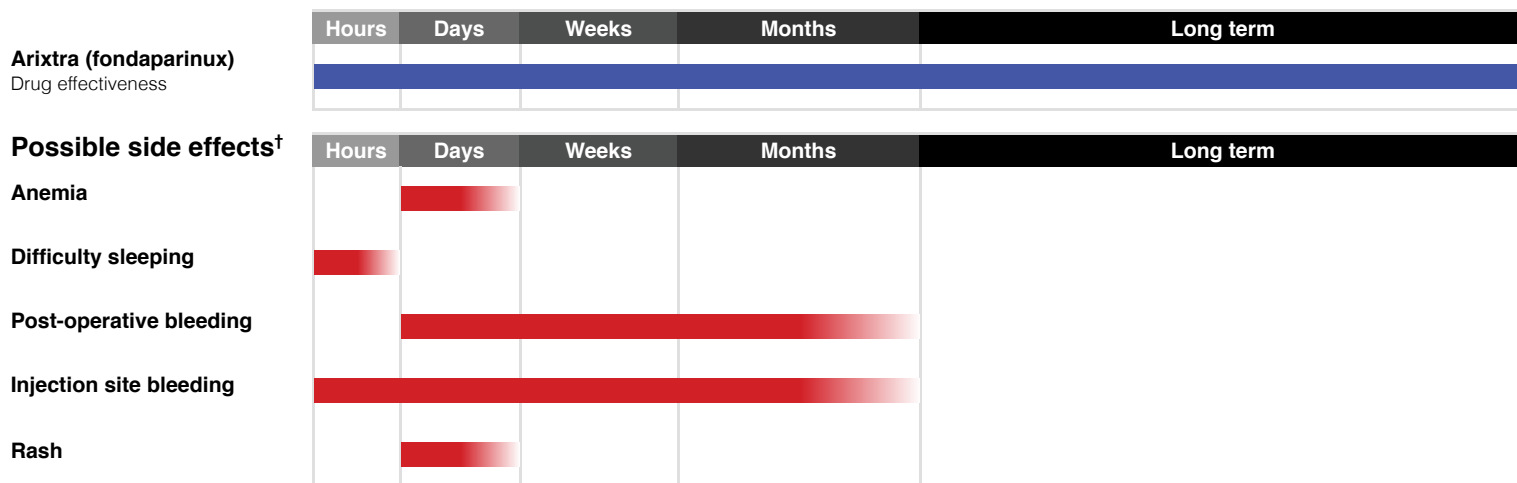


# Arixtra (fondaparinux) basics

**Thins the blood and treats blood clots.** Arixtra (fondaparinux) is effective at treating clots, but it can increase your risk of bleeding.

## What to expect when starting

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



† Data on frequency of side effects is not available.

## Tips from pharmacists

- When you first start taking Arixtra (fondaparinux), it can make you feel very dizzy, confused, tired, and weak.
- Be careful and avoid injury because you may bleed or bruise more easily when taking Arixtra (fondaparinux). It is important to use a soft toothbrush and an electric razor. And be sure to rotate injection sites to avoid bruising.
- Arixtra (fondaparinux) can cause further complications with existing bleeding, heart infection, or poor kidney function. Talk to your doctor before starting this medication if you have any of these conditions.
- Arixtra (fondaparinux) can cause many interactions, talk with your doctor before starting any new drug, including prescription or over-the-counter, natural products, or vitamins.

## Risks and warnings

The FDA has identified these as possible serious or life-threatening risks with this medication. Contact your doctor if you experience any of these.

### Spinal/epidural blood clots

Arixtra (fondaparinux) can cause spinal/epidural blood clots if you are also receiving anesthesia or undergoing spinal procedures. These blood clots may result in long-term or permanent paralysis. You will be monitored frequently for signs and symptoms of impaired mental function, such as partial or complete paralysis, muscle weakness, loss of sensation, or pain. If you notice any of these symptoms, contact your doctor immediately.

### Bleeding

Arixtra (fondaparinux) can increase your chances of bleeding. Tell your doctor if you have a condition that can increase your risk of bleeding (genetic bleeding disorders, active ulcers, hemorrhagic stroke, uncontrolled hypertension, diabetic retinopathy, or if you just had surgery). Monitor for signs and symptoms of bleeding (red or brown urine, dark or bloody stool, bruising, gum bleeding).

### Kidney problems

Arixtra (fondaparinux) can increase the risk of bleeding in patients with kidney impairment because the drug will begin to accumulate in the body, having an increased effect. Contact your doctor immediately if you notice bleeding or bruising (ie. red or brown urine, dark or bloody stool, bruising, gum bleeding).