

A PATIENT'S GUIDE



LIVING WITH
ATRIAL
FIBRILLATION
AND
TAKING TIKOSYN

TIKOSYN[®]
(*dofetilide*)
500
250
125
mcg
capsules

Introduction

Your doctor has told you that you have AF (atrial fibrillation). You may feel your heart beat faster at times. You may feel dizzy at times or short of breath. You may have a lot of questions about this condition.

This brochure will help answer those questions by giving you information about your abnormal heart rate. Your doctor will be able to give you the answers to other questions and help you to better understand AF.

Please talk to your doctor for more information about atrial fibrillation.



What are the symptoms of AF (Atrial Fibrillation)?

Some symptoms you may feel with AF (atrial fibrillation) are:

- Fast heartbeats
- Rapid pulse
- Dizziness, light-headedness, or feeling faint
- Shortness of breath
- Tightness in your chest

Symptoms may start and/or stop suddenly.



Be sure to talk to your doctor about these symptoms and how they affect you. Your doctor can then decide what treatment is best for you.

Your symptoms may occur:

- After you drink alcohol
- After you eat certain foods
- When you participate in certain activities

But AF (Atrial Fibrillation) can also occur without any reason that you might notice.

People have different signs and symptoms when they have AF. Some people do not feel signs or symptoms at all. Some feel them once in a while. Some have them all the time.

Please talk to your doctor for more information about atrial fibrillation.

Do I have to stop my activities because of AF (Atrial Fibrillation)?

Probably. You may have to stop some activities. If you follow your doctor's advice about treatment, you may be able to go back to the things you like to do.

Do I have to live a certain way because I have AF (Atrial Fibrillation)?

Yes, sometimes. You may have to watch what you eat or drink. It can be hard to get AF under control. You will have to be patient and work with your doctor.

Is there a cure for AF (Atrial Fibrillation)?

Normally AF cannot be cured. The most crucial thing for you to know is that this disorder of the heart can be treated.

Like high blood pressure and diabetes, AF is a condition that will last your whole life. It will most likely not go away.

How is AF (Atrial Fibrillation) treated?

It is different for each person.

- Some types of AF may not be severe enough to need treatment.
- Other types of AF may need one or more medicines and/or medical procedures.

You should discuss your treatment options with your doctor.

Are there different kinds of AF (Atrial Fibrillation)?

Yes.

- Some forms may come and go. These "attacks" of AF may get better on their own with no treatment.
- Other forms of AF last longer (ie, greater than 1 week). This type will only resolve with medical treatment.

Please talk to your doctor for more information about atrial fibrillation.

What can I do to help me remember to take my medicines the right way?

You can do 2 things to make taking any medicine easier:

1. Know what medicines you are taking.
 - Keep 2 lists of your medicines. Write down their names, what they look like and how you should take them.
 - Keep your first list in a convenient place, such as on your refrigerator and check this list each morning.
 - Keep a second list in your wallet.
 - Update your lists when your doctor adds new medications or changes the way you take them.

Please talk to your doctor for more information about atrial fibrillation.

2. Take your medicine on time.
 - Keep a calendar for when you have to take a medicine. Check off the date once you take it.
 - Mark your calendar a few days before you need your medication refilled. Call in the refill to your pharmacist.
 - Keep a weekly pill box. Each Saturday night, put in the right pills for each day of the week.
 - Ask your family and/or friends to remind you. Tell your loved ones about the medicines that you take.



How does the heart beat normally?

A normal heartbeat will beat from 60 to 100 times per minute or more. The beat can vary depending on a number of things. The more active you are the faster it will beat.

Here is what happens for a normal heartbeat:

- Special cells in your heart send small electric signals.
- These signals cause the top and bottom chambers to contract.
- This motion pumps blood from your heart to the rest of your body.
 - First, the top chambers contract
 - And then the bottom chambers contract (See Figure 1).

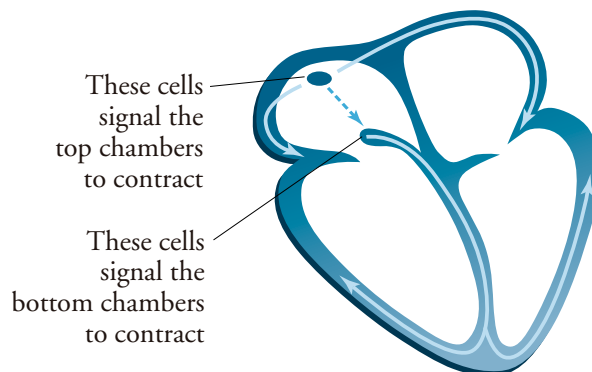


Figure 1. Electric signals cause your heart to contract.

What is an arrhythmia?

- An arrhythmia (a-RITH-mee-ya) is the medical term for an abnormal heartbeat.
- The heartbeat may be too fast, too slow, or irregular. The heart cannot pump blood out to the body the way it should.

Here is what happens with an arrhythmia:

- The heart has 4 chambers (See Figure 2): 2 top chambers, or atria, and 2 bottom chambers, or ventricles
- The pumping action of the 4 chambers of a normal, healthy heart, are perfectly timed.
- When you have an arrhythmia, the timing is thrown off.

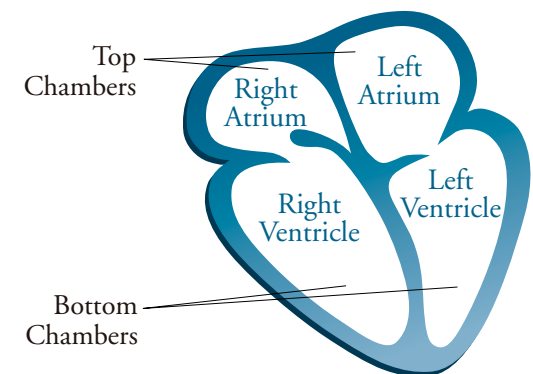


Figure 2. Chambers of your heart.

Please talk to your doctor for more information about atrial fibrillation.

What is AF (Atrial Fibrillation)?

AF is one type of arrhythmia.

There are other types. With AF:

- The heartbeat is disorganized (See Figure 3).
- The heartbeat is also too fast.
 - The top chambers of the heart contract, or squeeze, too fast.
 - The heart can beat up to 10 times faster than the normal heart beat.
 - As a result, the heart can't pump blood as well.

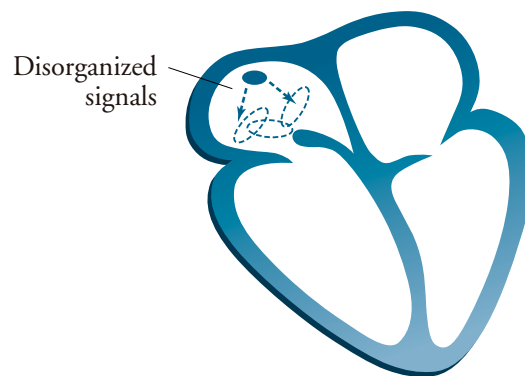


Figure 3. Disorganized signals in atrial fibrillation.

Please talk to your doctor for more information about atrial fibrillation.

How did I get AF (Atrial Fibrillation)?

You need to ask your doctor. We don't know why some people get AF and some do not.

Other medical problems can cause AF. These problems can include:

- Heart disease
- Thyroid condition
- Severe infections
- Lung disorders
- Drinking alcohol



How common is AF (Atrial Fibrillation)?

- AF is the most common type of arrhythmia.
- AF can occur at any age. It is more likely to happen as people grow older.



How can my doctor tell if I have AF (Atrial Fibrillation)?

Your doctor may ask you to:

- Have an EKG (electrocardiogram) done
- Wear a Holter monitor (This test checks the beat of your heart over a 24-hour period and records any change in heart rate.)
- Have an echocardiogram done
- Have blood tests done

Please talk to your doctor for more information about atrial fibrillation.



visit www.tikosyn.com

Please see patient product information in
the right pocket of the Patient Resource Kit.

Introduction

Patient information about
Tikosyn (TEE-ko-sin)
(generic name: dofetilide)

This pamphlet includes information
about Tikosyn that is important for you
to know.

- Read this information carefully
before you start to take Tikosyn.
It is based on the Tikosyn Patient
Product Information.
- Read the Tikosyn Patient Package
Insert each time you get a refill of
Tikosyn to see if any information
about your condition has changed.
- Talk with your doctor or pharmacist
if you have questions. Information in
this pamphlet cannot take the place
of a talk with your health care
provider.

Answers to the most commonly asked questions about Tikosyn

What is the most important information I should know about Tikosyn?

Tikosyn has been prescribed to help your heart to beat in a more normal way.

But in some patients, it can cause a different type of dangerous abnormal heartbeat.

- You may feel this difference as a fast rate of heartbeat.
- You may also feel faint or become dizzy.

In some rare cases, it can even cause death.

Take Tikosyn the way your doctor tells you. This will decrease your chance of getting this dangerous abnormal heartbeat.

You will start on Tikosyn:

- In a hospital
- In a place where your heart rate will be closely watched

Health care professionals will monitor your heartbeat for the first few days.



The abnormal heartbeat will most likely occur in the first few days of treatment. And the hospital staff is there to treat it if it occurs.

Please see patient product information in the right pocket of the Patient Resource Kit.

Call your doctor right away if you:

- Feel faint
- Become dizzy
- Have fast heartbeats
(This type of heartbeat is especially dangerous.)

These conditions can be serious.
And in rare instances, they can even
cause death.

If you can't reach your doctor, go to
the nearest hospital emergency room.

Take your Tikosyn capsules with you
and show them to the doctor or nurse.



Call your doctor right away if you have
any of these symptoms:

- Severe diarrhea
- Unusual sweating
- Vomiting
- Less appetite than normal
- More thirst than normal

These are signs and symptoms that
will make you more likely to get the
dangerous heartbeat.

If you take TIKOSYN® (dofetilide)
with certain other medicines, you will
increase the chance that you may get
this type of abnormal heartbeat. These
medicines are listed under “Do not
take Tikosyn if you are taking certain
medicines for.”

Please see patient product information in
the right pocket of the Patient Resource Kit.

What are the possible side effects of Tikosyn?

The most serious side effect of
Tikosyn is:

- A dangerous abnormal heartbeat

These abnormal heartbeats occur rarely,
but they can be serious. In some rare
cases, they can cause death.

Tikosyn's most common side effects are:

- Headache
- Chest pain
- Dizziness

Tikosyn can also cause other side effects.
If you are concerned about these or other
side effects, ask your doctor.

Take your Tikosyn each day the way your doctor tells you:

- Tikosyn can help you best
if you take it as your doctor
has prescribed it each day.
- Most patients take 1 Tikosyn
capsule twice a day.
- Do not miss a dose.
- Do not take extra doses.
- Go for all your regular checkups.
- Get your refills on time.
- Do not stop taking TIKOSYN®
(dofetilide) until your doctor tells
you to stop.

Please see patient product information in
the right pocket of the Patient Resource Kit.

Tell your doctor and pharmacist the names of all medications you are taking:

- Prescription
- Non-prescription
- Natural/herbal remedies
- Vitamins
- Dietary supplements

Do not start taking any other medicines without telling your doctor.

Please see patient product information in the right pocket of the Patient Resource Kit.



What should I avoid while taking Tikosyn?

Avoid taking any new medicines while taking Tikosyn until you check with your doctor.

- Some medicines can increase the amount of Tikosyn in your body. This can increase your chance of getting the dangerous type of heartbeat. (See “Do not take Tikosyn if you are taking certain medicines for:”)
- Tell your doctor and pharmacist the names of all medications you are taking
 - prescription
 - non-prescription
 - natural/herbal remedies
 - vitamins
 - dietary supplements
- Carry a list of all medicines and supplements you take. If you have to go to the hospital or are treated by a health care provider, tell them that you take Tikosyn.
- Be sure to show them the list of other medicines and supplements you take. They need to know these things to make sure your medicines are safe for you to take at the same time.

Do not take Tikosyn if you are taking
certain medicines for:

Heartburn, upset stomach, and ulcers

- This includes: Cimetidine (Tagamet®, Tagamet® HB)*. Available both by prescription and without prescription

High blood pressure and certain
heart problems

- This includes: Verapamil (Calan®, Calan® SR, Covera-HS®, Isoptin®, Isoptin® SR, Verelan®, Verelan® PM)*

Fungal infections

- This includes: Ketoconazole (Nizoral®)*

Bacterial infections

- This includes: Trimethoprim alone (Proloprim®, Trimpex®) or the combination of trimethoprim and sulfamethoxazole (Bactrim®, and Septra®)*

Nausea and vomiting

- This includes: Prochlorperazine (Compazine®)*

Cancer or AIDS

- This includes: Megestrol (Megace®)*

*The brands listed are the trademarks of their respective owners and are not trademarks of Pfizer Inc.

High blood pressure

- This includes: Hydrochlorothiazide alone or in combination with other medicines (such as Esidrix®, Ezide®, HydroDIURIL®, Hydro-Par®, Microzide™, or Oretic®)*

Do not take Tikosyn if you have this condition:

- Serious kidney problems or you are on kidney dialysis

Do not take Tikosyn if you are taking certain
medications for these conditions:

- Depression or other mental problems
- Asthma, allergies, hay fever
- Skin problems
- Liver problems

Tikosyn is also not recommended for:

- Women who are pregnant
- Women who are breast-feeding
- Children

Safety in these groups has not been studied.

Please see patient product information in the right pocket of the Patient Resource Kit.

How should I take Tikosyn?

Your doctor will start you on Tikosyn in the hospital and will check your heart rate for the first 3 days of treatment. This will help your doctor to find the right dose for you.



Follow your doctor's orders.

- Take Tikosyn the way your doctor tells you.
- Keep your appointments for tests. These tests will help your doctor check if the amount you are taking is still right for you.
- Take your Tikosyn until your doctor tells you to stop.
- Take your Tikosyn even if you feel fine.
- Take Tikosyn with or without food. It does not matter.

Take the right amount.

- Do not miss a dose. You could increase your chance of getting the dangerous type of heartbeat.
- If you do miss a dose of Tikosyn, just take your normal amount at the next scheduled time.
- Never take an extra dose of Tikosyn, even if you do not feel well.
- If you take more Tikosyn than you should have, call your doctor right away.

Take it at the right time.

- Take it the same time each day. This gives your heart a steady supply of the medicine.
- It may help to take Tikosyn at the same time as something else you do each day.

Call your doctor if you need help.

- If you can't reach your doctor, go to the nearest hospital emergency room.
- Take your TIKOSYN® (dofetilide) capsules with you to show to the doctor or nurse.

Please see patient product information in the right pocket of the Patient Resource Kit.

What should I do if I am admitted into the hospital?

If you are admitted into a hospital for any reason:

- Take your Tikosyn with you. The hospital may not have Tikosyn.
- Make sure that the doctor or nurse knows that you are on Tikosyn.

How should I store Tikosyn?

- Keep Tikosyn in the same bottle in which you receive it.
- Keep it in a place that is dry, not too hot and not too cold. For example, try not to leave it in any of these places:
 - the bathroom
 - a parked car
 - luggage that gets checked when you travel
- Keep Tikosyn at room temperature (59 to 86 degrees Fahrenheit or 15 to 30 degrees Celsius).
- Keep Tikosyn out of reach of children.

If I have questions about TIKOSYN® (dofetilide), whom should I call?

If you have questions about Tikosyn, you can do any of the 3 things:

- Contact your doctor who prescribed Tikosyn.
- Contact your local pharmacist.
- Call 1-877-TIKOSYN (1-877-845-6796)
When you call this number you will be able to speak to a health care professional.

Your Tikosyn is just for you to treat your AF.

- Tikosyn is prescribed just for your condition alone. Do not use it for any other condition you may have.
- Do not give it to others.

Please see patient product information in the right pocket of the Patient Resource Kit.