

# Your medication information for CHRONIC HEART FAILURE

## Digoxin

Active Ingredient Name	Some Common Brand Names
Digoxin	Lanoxin <sup>®</sup> , Sigmaxin-PG <sup>®</sup> , Sigmaxin <sup>®</sup>

### What is digoxin?

Digoxin is used in heart failure to:

- Increase the strength of the heart's pumping
- Help regulate an irregular heartbeat
- Reduce symptoms of heart failure in combination with other medicines
- Reduce the risk of hospitalisation.

### What should I do while taking it?

**Take your digoxin every day according to the doctor's instructions.**

- Digoxin is usually taken once daily in the morning.

**See your doctor for a check-up one to two weeks after starting digoxin and after each dose change, and every six to 12 months thereafter.**

- Your doctor will measure your heart rate and order a blood test to check your digoxin level, potassium level and kidney function.

**Check with your doctor or pharmacist before using any other medicines.**

- This includes over-the-counter, complementary and alternative medicines such as vitamins, dietary supplements, homeopathy or traditional/herbal medicines.
- Some medicines can interfere with digoxin in your body and increase your risk of side effects.

### What are the possible side effects?

- A blood digoxin level that is too high can cause nausea, vomiting, loss of appetite, diarrhoea, slow heart beat, blurred vision, visual disturbances, confusion and dizziness. Tell your doctor if you experience these side effects, as your dose may need to be reduced.
- Read the consumer medicines information leaflet or speak to your doctor or pharmacist if you would like more information about possible side effects.



**For more advice about information in this leaflet, contact:**

Monash Medicines Information -

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