



## >> BE MINDFUL OF YOUR MEDICATION <<

Your bariatric surgery could affect the dosage, form and types of medications you should take, as well as their effectiveness. Your medications must be monitored regularly by your doctor.

### Here are some things to remember:

- **Never STOP or CHANGE medications or dosages on your own.**

Always speak to your doctor first. If it feels like your medications are not working properly, see your doctor right away.

Below are some of the drugs that can cause **stomach irritation** and **must be avoided** due to increased **risk of ulcers**. Discuss any of these medications with your doctor before stopping any of these **Non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDS)**:

- > **Ibuprofen, Advil, Aleve, Motrin, Naprosyn**
- > **Salicylates such as Aspirin**
- > **Celebrex, Meloxicam (Mobic)**
- > **NSAID Transdermal patches or creams such as Voltaren Cream, A535 rub**
- > **Intravenous (IV) or Intramuscular (IM) injections Ketorolac (Toradol).**

Certain drugs will be affected by the changes in your anatomy and body chemistry and might not be absorbed as well as they were before. Your doctor might have to increase your dosage, change the drug, or change the form in which you take the drug.

- **Because of absorption problems, it is usually advisable to avoid time release (long acting) drugs such as OTC meds: 12/24 hour time release meds. Vitamin B12, certain antihistamines and pain medications.** Ask your doctor about substituting the standard release form. Anti-depressants are often given in long acting form. If you begin to experience increased depression, ask your doctor to review your medication.
- **Women on oral contraceptives must use additional or alternative form of contraception.** Pregnancy is a risk if your medication is not being absorbed properly.