# Metformin and Tests Requiring IV Iodine

There are certain tests that require iodine injected IV (into the vein). An IV iodine injection may affect the way metformin (Glucophage,® Glucophage XR,® Glucovance®) works. This information will help you prepare for a test requiring IV iodine.

*Do not take metformin until your doctor tells you to resume it.*

## Before The Test

- Contact your doctor to have a **blood creatinine** test performed before this test.
- Drink your normal intake of water to avoid dehydration. Ask your doctor if you need to drink any extra water.
- Tell your doctor about all the prescription and non-prescription medicines and nutritional supplements that you are taking. If you are taking supplements that act as antioxidants such as vitamin E, drink alcohol or take cimetadine (Tagamet®), ask your doctor if you should stop taking these products at this time.

## After the Test

- Contact your doctor to obtain an order for another **blood creatinine** test. This second blood test should be done 48 hours after the IV iodine test.
- **Do not** take metformin and do not resume taking metformin until your doctor tells you to resume. Most patients may begin taking metformin 48 hours after this type of test.
- Follow your doctor's advice about caring for your diabetes (diet, other medications and monitoring of your blood sugar levels). Contact your doctor if there are any changes in your diabetes control.

If you have any questions about this information talk to your doctor, nurse, the Drug Information Center (312-926-7573) or the Radiology Department (312-926-5312).

## Health Information Resources

For more information, visit one of Northwestern Memorial Hospital's Health Learning Centers. These state-of-the-art health libraries are located on the third floor of the Galter Pavilion and on the first floor of the Prentice Women's Hospital. Health information professionals are available to help you find the information you need and provide you with personalized support at no charge. You may contact the Health Learning Centers by calling 312-926-LINK (5465) or by sending an e-mail to hlc@nmh.org.

For additional information about Northwestern Memorial Hospital, please visit our Web site at www.nmh.org.

*Para asistencia en español, por favor llamar a el departamento de representantes para pacientes al 312-926-3112.*

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