

- You may have to wear a special sock.

### What can I do?

- **Do what your doctor says!**
- Take your pills. If you don't take your pills, the clog may come back.
- Do not take birth control pills unless your doctor says you can.
- Do not wear knee-high stockings.



**This is how you say:**

- vein clog or deep vein thrombosis - deep van throm-BO-sis
- lung clog or pulmonary embolism - PULL-mun-ai-ree EM-boll-iz-em
- warfarin - WAR-fah-rin
- Coumadin™ - KOO-mah-din

This paper is for your information only.

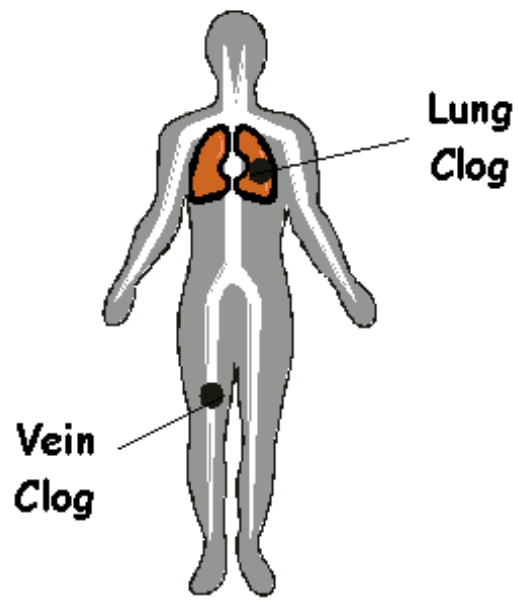


**Call your doctor with any questions.**

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# What You Need To Know About Blood Clogs (Vein Clogs) (Lung Clogs)



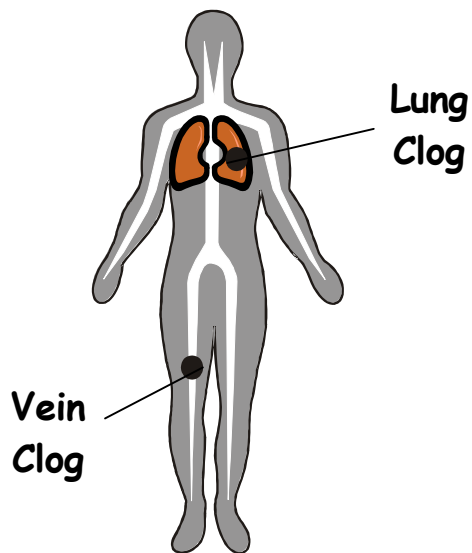
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## Vein Clogs

Your heart pumps blood to your body. Blood comes back to your heart in tubes called veins. In some people the blood gets thick in a vein and then the vein clogs (or clots) up.

A clog in the vein can be very bad:

- The clog can break free and travel in your veins.
- The clog can go to your lungs and cause you to stop breathing and die.



## What does a clog in the vein feel like?

- Your leg hurts or is swollen.
- You may have a sore on your leg.
- Your leg can change color.

## Lung clogs

When you breathe, the air goes to your lungs. In some people the clog can go to the lungs. A clog in the lung may make it hard for you to breathe or you may stop breathing. Your heart will have to work harder to get blood into your lungs. A clog in the lung is very bad.

## What does a clog in the lung feel like?

- You have sharp chest pains when you take a breath.
- You can't get your breath.
- You cough up blood.
- You feel dizzy.

## What may cause blood clogs?

- Being sick in bed for a long time
- Being pregnant
- Taking birth control pills
- Taking hormone pills
- Having cancer
- Having an operation
- Sitting a long time without moving around
- Having blood that clogs too fast (it may run in your family)

## How do we make clogs go away?

- You may have to go into the hospital.
- You may get medicines to melt the clog.
- You may have to take a pill to make your blood thinner. The pill is called warfarin (or Coumadin™).
- Your doctor may put in a tiny strainer to catch the clog.

