



At Beacon Memorial Hospital Anticoagulation Clinic, we believe you need special attention. With the help of pharmacists who are specially trained in the management of anticoagulants, the clinic is dedicated to your care while on these medications. Our goal is to work with you so you understand your anticoagulant and how daily lifestyle decisions can impact your care.

### **Why do I need a special clinic for my medication?**

Anticoagulants like warfarin (Coumadin®), help prevent the development of dangerous blood clots that can cause problems in the brain, legs, or lungs. While necessary, these medications need special monitoring to make sure effective amounts are given without causing bleeding problems.

### **What Happens at the Anticoagulation Clinic?**

Your initial visit to the clinic will be 40-60 minutes long. Follow up appointments may be 15-20 minutes long.

During your visits, we check your blood using state-of-the-art equipment to see if you have the right amount of medication in your body. All that is needed is a small amount of blood from a finger stick. There is no need to go to a separate lab facility and no need for huge needles. Your INR result is available very quickly.

We will discuss your therapy and talk about dosage changes during your visit. Before you leave, you are provided with written instructions about what was discussed as well as when to come back for another visit.

### **Instructions for your first appointment**

For your first appointment, please park in the Bartlett Street Parking Garage or use our convenient valet parking service. Enter through the Main Entrance of the Hospital. You will need to check in at the Registration-Admitting Office **at least 15 minutes prior to your first appointment only**, located just past the South Bend Chocolate Company. Once you have checked in, please follow the signs to reach the Anticoagulation Clinic or ask to have a People-Mover drive you to the Anticoagulation Clinic location. The Clinic is located in the Memorial Medical Plaza in suite 115, but it can be reached from inside Memorial Hospital.

**What to bring:** Photo Identification, Medical and Prescription Insurance Cards, ALL of your medications and supplements.

- A physician referral is required to participate in the Anticoagulation Clinic
- The Clinic is open Monday through Friday, by appointment only.
- **To schedule an initial appointment, call Beacon Outpatient Scheduling at (574) 647- 7700**
- To reschedule an existing appointment or for other information, call the Anticoagulation Clinic directly at 574-647-4202.