Digitalis Medications

Common Use: To treat Congestive Heart Failure (CHF) or irregular heart rhythms.

Key Tips:

- Take your digitalis medication as ordered by your doctor. Do not stop taking your medication unless your doctor tells you to do so.
- If you are taking the liquid form of this medication, the amount you should take should be measured only with the specially marked dropper you are given with the bottle of medicine.
- There are different medications that may interact with digitalis medications to either increase or decrease its effects. Be sure to notify your doctor who prescribes your digitalis medication if you start any other new medication.
- Limit the amount of caffeine consumed; and avoid diet pills, laxatives, cough or cold medicines, or sinus medicines unless prescribed by your doctor.

Common Side Effects with Digitalis Medications :

- Dizziness or lightheadedness
- Headache
- Tiredness/drowsiness
- Some people may have eye sensitivity to light
- Erectile dysfunction (men)

Warning Signs
Call your doctor if you have any of these signs:

- An irregular heartbeat that makes you feel like your heart has skipped a beat
- Slow heartbeat (less than 60 beats per minute)
- Palpitations
- Difficulty breathing
- Fainting
- Hallucinations, confusion or mental changes like depression
- Blurred vision, double vision or seeing yellow, green, or while halos around objects

If you notice other side effects that you think are caused by this medicine, tell your doctor. Call your doctor for medical advice about side effects.

Reference: National Library of Medicine/MedlinePlus @ www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus ; Texas Heart Institute @ www.texasheartinstitute.org