Medications for Blood Disorders

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Blood disorders affect the blood’s ability to function right, such as anemia, plate, leukemia, and excessive clotting (Blood Disorders, 2018). Various medications are used to treat these disorders, include ferrous sulfate, Procrit, and warfarin. Ferrous sulfate is used to prevent and treat iron-deficiency anemia, which is usually a lack of or having less red blood cells in the body (NHS Choices, 2020). This is caused by having too little iron in the body. Ferrous sulfate combines with globin chains and porphyrin to form hemoglobin, a protein in the red blood cells, vital for oxygen delivery in the body organs (NHS Choices, 2020). The common side effects of this medication are constipation or diarrhea, nausea, upper abdominal pain, dark stool, and loss of appetite (NHS Choices, 2020). Iron is usually hard on the digestive tract hence affect the normal digestive processes of the body. This leads to constipation (NHS Choices, 2020).

Procrit is also used to treat anemia, but in this case, anemia in persons with chronic kidney disease, persons receiving chemotherapy for some types of cancer, and people receiving zidovudine to treat HIV (PROCRIT®, n.d). It is also used to reduce the need for blood transfusion when a patient is scheduled for certain surgeries where much blood loss is anticipated (PROCRIT®, n.d). Procrit falls under the category of medicines referred to as erythropoiesis-stimulating agents (ESAs) (PROCRIT®, n.d). Therefore, it works by causing the bone marrow to make more red blood cells (PROCRIT®, n.d). The severe side effects of Procrit include seizures, serious allergic reactions, and severe skin reactions. The common side effects include dizziness, joint and muscle pain, nausea, weight loss, respiratory infection, and low potassium levels in the blood. Procrit alters the blood sugar level in the body by increasing it (PROCRIT®, n.d).

Warfarin is a medicine categorized as a blood thinner or anticoagulant used to prevent and treat blood clots, such as in pulmonary embolism and deep vein thrombosis (NHS Choices, 2019). Blood clots increase the risk of heart attack. Warfarin works by preventing the formation of blood clots by decreasing the production of factors by the liver that endorses coagulation by alienating vitamin K, which leads to the production of these factors (PharmD, 2018). The major side effect of warfarin is bleeding more easily than usual such as heavier menstrual periods, nosebleeds, and bleeding gums (NHS Choices, 2019). Other side effects include black stool, stomach pain, dark urine, mild rash, and headaches. Warfarin alters the normal clotting process of blood in case of a bruise (NHS Choices, 2019).

**References**

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