

Lumbar Puncture and Myelogram Anticoagulation and Antiplatelet Guidelines - Revised 6/18/2026

Laboratory Values for LP/Myelograms

PLT	>50,000 in last 72 hrs for inpt; 30 days for routine outpt	IT chemo patients PLT count within 24hrs of procedure >50k - do procedure 25-50k - give 1 unit of platelets and do procedure (no redraw) <25k - give 2 units of platelets and do the procedure (no redraw)
INR	< 1.5	

Inpatients/ER: check labs within 24 hours of exam

Outpatients: Do not need labs if routine. If a patient has a history of cancer, bleeding disorders, or liver disease, labs need to be drawn within 24 hours of the exam.

Anticoagulant and Antiplatelet Medication Guidelines

Med	Recommendation	Comments
NSAIDS	Do not stop	
ASA (any dose)	Do not stop	
Clopidogrel (Plavix)	5 day hold	Restart after 24 hours
Prasugrel (Effient)	7 day hold	Restart after 24 hours
Ticagrelor (Brillinta)	5 day hold	Restart after 24 hours
Warfarin (Coumadin)	5 day hold (INR<1.5 day of exam)	Restart evening of exam
Dabigatran (Pradaxa)	CrCl>50 ml/min - 48hr hold CrCl≤50 ml/min - 96hr hold	Restart after 48 hours
Rivaroxaban (Xarelto)	48 hour hold	Restart after 48 hours
Apixaban (Eliquis)	48 hour hold	Restart after 48 hours
Edoxaban (Savaysa)	24 hours hold	Restart after 24 hours
Heparin	6 hour hold	6-8 hours after exam
Lovenox	24 hour hold	24 hours after exam
Fondaparinux (Arixtra)	36 hour hold	48 hours after exam
Argatroban	4 hour hold	12 hours after exam