Tissue Plasminogen Activator (tPA): A “Clot Buster” Medication

What is tPA? What is it used for?

- tPA is a medication that dissolves clots
- A clot-busting drug used to treat symptoms caused by a stroke

When is tPA used?

- tPA must be used within a certain time frame
- Your doctor will determine if you qualify

How is tPA given? What are the benefits?

- Given through intravenous (IV) or through a catheter into your head (IA)
- If you are a candidate, tPA can significantly reduce the effects of stroke

What are the risks of using tPA?

- tPA can cause bleeding or worsen the effects of strokes or may even cause death
- Your doctor will discuss your risk and benefits related to this drug

Call your health care provider for more questions.