

ACHES Pill Warning Signs



ABDOMINAL PAIN

- Blood clot in the pelvis or liver [*mesenteric or pelvic vein thrombosis*]
- Vomiting
- Cramping
- Weakness



CHEST PAIN

- Blood clot in the lung or heart vessels [*pulmonary embolism or myocardial infarction*]
- Heart attack, angina
- Chest or heart pain, left arm and shoulder pain
- Coughing and shortness of breath



HEADACHES

- Stroke
- Blurred vision, spots, zigzag lines, weakness, difficulty speaking
- Sudden intellectual impairment



EYE PROBLEMS

- Stroke or retinal vein thrombosis
- Complete or partial loss of vision



SEVERE LEG PAIN

- Inflammation and blood clots of a leg in the leg [*thrombophlebitis*]
- Swelling, heat or redness, tenderness in leg

Figure 11–3 Pill warning signs—ACHES

You should also return to the office if you develop severe mood swings or depression, become jaundiced (yellow-colored skin), miss 2 periods or have signs of pregnancy.

Source: Hatcher RA et al (2003), adapted with permission