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**What were the questions you had after being discharged from the hospital?**

**Leslie Lake**

Board President  
National Blood Clot Alliance  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

When I left the hospital, without any information, I had a prescription. I had never even really heard of what a blood thinner was. I didn't know what it technically did. I didn't know how I was supposed to take it, when I was supposed to take it. I was terrified of getting another blood clot, obviously. It started my process of information gathering because I did not want to go back into the hospital. I was terrified of getting another blood clot and I wanted to stay alive. Everything for me was at risk at that point. I didn't know if I would die. I didn't know what my body was feeling if that was normal, not normal. I didn't have anybody to talk to, to share these questions, to ask questions. I wondered if my business was at risk. I didn't know if I'd be able to go back to work, the way that I had worked before. Everything, my life, and my world was turned upside down in a matter of two days.