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NEW PILL IS DVT WONDER DRUG

A NEW pill made from tree bark is being hailed as a breakthrough against deep vein thrombosis.

DVT, often caused by blood clots forming in the legs during long-haul flights, affects 8,000 British travellers each year.

Medics advise those at risk to take aspirin to thin the blood. But aspirin can irritate the stomach and make it bleed.

New pill Zinopin, which contains pycnogenol from the bark of pines, also reduces the blood's ability to clot with no ill effects.

Surgeon John Scurr, who has researched DVT for the World Health Organisation believes it is one of the best treatments.

He says: "Pycnogenol has shown to have benefits similar to aspirin but without the side-effects."

To cut the risk of DVT, avoid alcohol and walk around the plane every hour. You can also wear compression socks, available at chemists, which helps blood circulate.

● Zinopin, on sale from today, is £14.99 for ten from Lloyds' pharmacies.