Be aware that these drugs are given in acute situations when time for client teaching may be limited and the client may be unable to focus on information related to the stress of the situation.

**Client Teaching.**  Client education as it relates to thrombolytic therapy should include the goals of therapy; the reasons for obtaining baseline data such as vital signs, laboratory values, and the existence of underlying disorders (recent trauma, recent cerebral embolism, hemorrhage, thrombocytopenia, or recent childbirth); and possible drug side effects. Include the following points when teaching clients about thrombolytics:

- There is an increased risk for bleeding with thrombolytic agents. Immediately report nosebleeds, excessive menstrual flow, bleeding of the gums, or bruising with minor injury to the skin.
- Avoid strenuous or hazardous activities that could result in bleeding injuries.
- Expect vital signs to be taken and assessments to be made frequently to identify potential complications.

**HEMOSTATICS**

Hemostatics, also called antifibrinolytics, have an action opposite that of anticoagulants: they shorten bleeding time. The class name hemostatics comes from the drugs’ ability to slow blood flow. They are used to prevent excessive bleeding following surgery.