

Challenges in Anticoagulation: A Panel Discussion

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Disclosures

Lynette Kosar:

- No relevant industry relationships to disclose

Lori Albers:

- Paid speaking for: AstraZeneca

Bill Semchuk:

- Participation on advisory boards or paid speaking for: Bayer, BI Canada, Pfizer/BMS Alliance, Servier, Sanofi
- Member of the Heart and Stroke Canada Secondary Prevention of Stroke Guidelines Primary Panel

Sheri Koshman:

- No relevant industry relationships to disclose

Patient Case

- Ms. Knitter, Age: 87, Female, Weight: 63 kg
- Medical History
 - Hyperlipidemia
 - Hypertension
 - MI, 15 years ago; CABG x 5
- Current Medications
 - ASA EC 81 mg po daily
 - Bisoprolol 5 mg po daily
 - Atorvastatin 80 mg po HS
 - Perindopril 8 mg po daily
- Social History
 - Family assists with medications
 - Lives independently in her own home
 - Occasional accidental fall at home



Learning Objectives

- To discuss and apply the evidence in the context of case-based discussions for common practice challenges faced by pharmacists managing anticoagulation, including:
 - Stroke Prevention in Elderly AF patients
 - Anticoagulation (DOAC/warfarin) for stroke prevention for AF patients with renal dysfunction
 - Use of DOACs in extremes of weight
 - Bleeding risk and resumption of anticoagulation after bleeding

Challenges in Anticoagulation

- <https://youtu.be/4HavF5f3VoA>

Patient Case

- Presents to ER with complaints of fluttering in her chest and periods of feeling tired and faint
- Relevant Findings
 - ECG: Atrial fibrillation, HR: 102 irregular,
 - BP: 135/85
 - Echo: LVEF: 55%, no significant valvular heart disease
- Labs
 - Scr: 100 micromol/L, Liver: WNL, CBC: WNL

Question

- What is the best course of action given her overall clinical and social history
 - Is oral anticoagulation indicated for Ms. Knitter?
 - If so, what are her options? Which agent & dose?



What do Canadian Cardiovascular Society AF Guidelines tell us?



What does the Saskatchewan Drug Plan tell us?

- Saskatchewan Drug Plan Exception Drug Status Criteria for DOACs
- a) At-risk patients with non-valvular atrial fibrillation who require rivaroxaban for the prevention of stroke and systemic embolism AND in whom:
 - Anticoagulation is inadequate following a reasonable trial on warfarin;
 - OR
 - Anticoagulation with warfarin is contraindicated or not possible due to inability to regularly monitor via International Normalized Ratio (INR) testing (i.e. no access to INR testing services at a laboratory, clinic, pharmacy, and at home).

<http://formulary.drugplan.ehealthsask.ca/PDFs/APPENDIXA.pdf>

What's the reality for Elderly Patients with Atrial Fibrillation?

- Elderly patients: ≥ 75 years
- Common arrhythmia, prevalence ↑ with age
- AF is associated with substantial mortality & morbidity, including a 5 fold ↑ in risk of stroke
 - Stroke risk from AF ↑ exponentially with age
 - Annual stroke risk at 80-90 yrs is as high as 23.5%
- Patients fear stroke more than bleeding

Benedetti et al. *Minerva Cardioangiologica* 2018 June; 66 (3): 305-13, Cavallari et al. *Anatol J Cardiol*. 2018 Jan; 19 (1): 67-71, Salimata et al. *ESC Journal of Cardiology Practice*. Vol 16 No 24 Apr 2019, Barco et al. *BMC Practice & Research Clinical Hematology* 26 (2015) 215-224, Zwikker et al. *BMC Open*. 2017; 7 (5): e018242

What's the reality for Elderly Patients with Atrial Fibrillation?

- Physicians are less likely to anticoagulate
- Patients frequently refuse anticoagulation
 - 25-65% of elderly patients are not Rx'd OAC
- Warfarin (>60% TTR INR 2-3) is superior to placebo, ASA, or ASA & clopidogrel (ACTIVE-W)
 - Absolute benefit of warfarin over antiplatelet therapy continues to ↑ as patients age (ATRIA, WASPO, & BAFTA)

Efthimiou et al. *Med Clin North Am*. 2015 March; 99(2): 417-430, Benedetti et al. *Minerva Cardioangiologica* 2018 June; 66 (3): 305-13, Cavallari et al. *Anatol J Cardiol*. 2018 Jan; 19 (1): 67-71, Barco et al. *BMC Practice & Research Clinical Hematology* 26 (2015) 215-224

In the Era of DOACs

- Proportion of patients 75 years or over enrolled in the phase III RCTs was over 30-40% (over 27,000 patients)

Cavallari et al. *Anatol J Cardiol*. 2018 Jan; 19 (1): 67-71

In the Era of DOACs

	% Patients ≥75 years	Stroke/SE	Major Bleeding	ICH	GI Bleeding
Compared to warfarin					
Dabigatran 110 mg (RE-LY)	40%	↔	↔	↓	↑
Dabigatran 150 mg (RE-LY)		↓	↑	↓	Women ≥75 & men ≥85 years
Rivaroxaban (ROCKET AF)	38%	↔	↔	↓	↑
Apixaban (ARISTOTLE)	31%	↓ (all cause mortality)	↓ (renal dysfunction)	↓	↔
Edoxaban (ENGAGE AF-TIMI 48)	40.2%	↔	↓	↓	↑ (high dose)
Compared to acetylsalicylic acid (ASA)					
Apixaban (AVERROES)	40.4%	↓ (trial terminated early)	↔	↔	↔

Taylor D, ESC. *Euro Heart J*. 2019 Apr 17;40(15):1371-1372. Cavallero et al. *Am J Geriatr Cardiol*. 2018 Jan;19(1):67-71. Benedetti et al. *Minerva Cardioangiologica*. 2018 June; 66(1): 303-13.

American Geriatrics Society 2019 Updated AGS Beers Criteria® for Potentially Inappropriate Medication Use in Older Adults

By the 2019 American Geriatrics Society Beers Criteria® Update Expert Panel®

Table 4. 2019 American Geriatrics Society Beers Criteria® for Potentially Inappropriate Medications Drugs To Be Used With Caution in Older Adults®

Drug	Rationale	Recommendation	Quality of Evidence	Strength of Recommendation
Dabigatran (RELYANZA)	Increased risk of gastrointestinal bleeding compared with warfarin and reported cases with other direct oral anticoagulants when used for long-term treatment of VTE in older population in adults ≥75 years.	Use with caution for treatment of VTE in older population in adults ≥75 years.	Moderate	Strong
Use With Caution (Table 4)				
APIXABAN				
Emerging evidence of increased risk of serious bleeding compared with other anticoagulant options.				
Medications That Should Be Avoided or Have Their Dose/Regimen Reduced With Decreased Kidney Function (Table 6)				
Apixaban, dabigatran, edoxaban, and rivaroxaban				

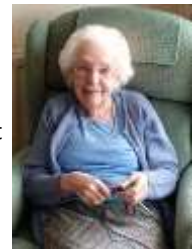
Fick et al. *J Am Geriatr Soc*. 2019 Apr; 67(4):674-694

OAC in the Elderly Patient with AF

- ✓ Comprehensive individual patient assessment required
- ✓ OAC is required to ↓ risk of stroke
- ✓ DOACs associated with better efficacy and safety profiles compared to warfarin
 - ✓ Apixaban or edoxaban may be preferred
 - ✓ If using warfarin, refer to an anticoagulation clinic
- ✓ Minimize the impact of each modifiable risk factor for bleeding
- ✓ The use of ASA for stroke prevention in AF is difficult to justify

Back to Patient Case

- Ms. Knitter, Age: 87, Female
- Weight: 63 kg
- CHADS₂ = 2
- HASBLED = 1
- Renal function has decline, but is stable:
 - SCr has increased from 100 micromol/L to 174 micromol/L
 - CrCl decreased from 35mL/min to 20mL/min (Cockcroft-Gault)

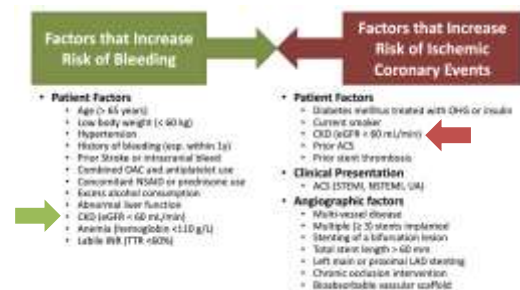


Question

- What are her options for an oral anticoagulant given her decline in renal function?



AF Stroke Prevention Challenges in CKD



Andrade JG et al. CCS Atrial Fibrillation Guidelines Committee. 2018 Focused Update of the Canadian Cardiovascular Society Guidelines for the Management of Atrial Fibrillation. *Can J Cardiol*. 2018 Nov;34(11):1371-1392.

AF Stroke Prevention Challenges in CKD

↑ risk of thrombosis & risk of bleeding

- Risk increases as renal function declines
- Due to physiological changes & incorrect OAC dosing

Drug	No. of Patients	No. of Events	Stroke Rate per 100 Person-Years
Stroke of Atrial Fibrillation			
Warfarin	40,774	10,049	11.1 (10.1-12.1)
Novel oral COX-2	13,038	861	6.6 (6.0-7.2)
Warfarin vs. novel oral COX-2	2,682	184	6.8 (5.8-7.9)
Bleeding			
All studies	407,395	18,375	4.5 (4.1-4.9)
Warfarin vs. novel oral COX-2	22,215	1,287	5.8 (5.3-6.4)
Warfarin vs. novel oral COX-2	1,254	64	5.1 (4.3-6.0)
Myocardial Infarction			
All studies	400,747	8,021	2.0 (1.8-2.1)
Warfarin vs. novel oral COX-2	23,088	1,651	7.1 (6.5-7.8)
Warfarin vs. novel oral COX-2	1,273	111	8.7 (7.6-9.9)
Total			
All studies	400,485	18,247	4.5 (4.1-4.9)
Warfarin vs. novel oral COX-2	14,951	1,441	9.6 (8.9-10.4)
Warfarin vs. novel oral COX-2	1,236	69	5.6 (4.8-6.5)

Olesen JB et al. Stroke and bleeding in atrial fibrillation with chronic kidney disease. N Engl J Med. 2012 Aug 16;367(7):625-35.

AF Stroke Prevention Challenges in CKD

Drug (renal impairment)	Dabigatran (NOXSTAF) ^{10,11}	Rivaroxaban (EVALUATE) ^{12,13}	Apixaban (ARISTOTLE) ^{14,15}	Edoxaban (ASCEND AF) ^{16,17}
Stroke Prevention	150 mg BID	15 mg BID	5 mg BID	6 mg BID
Number of patients	16,111	14,284	16,224	11,181
Dose	150 mg or 110 mg BID	15 mg or 10 mg BID	5 mg or 3 mg BID	6 mg or 3 mg BID
Stroke Prevention	DO-DO-reduce	DO-DO-reduce	DO-reduce-DO-reduce	DO-DO-reduce
Dose adjustment cut	None	10 mg BID	3 mg BID	3 mg BID
Percentage of patients with CKD	DO-reduce	DO-reduce	DO-reduce	DO-reduce
Reduction of stroke and systemic embolism	DO-reduce	DO-reduce	DO-reduce	DO-reduce
Reduction of major bleeding	DO-reduce	DO-reduce	DO-reduce	DO-reduce
Reduction of all-cause mortality	DO-reduce	DO-reduce	DO-reduce	DO-reduce

Kirchhoff P et al. 2016 ESC Guidelines for the management of AF developed in collaboration with EACTS. 2016 Nov;18(11):1609-1678.

AF Stroke Prevention Challenges in CKD

CCS AF Guidelines

Recommendation 5 – Warfarin when mechanical valves, aortic stenosis or renal dysfunction (2014)

We recommend that when OAC is indicated, warfarin is used rather than one of the NOACs for those patients with a mechanical prosthetic valve, those with aortic stenosis and those with a CrCl of 15–30 mL/min (Strong Recommendation, Moderate Quality Evidence).

Values and preferences (2014)

This recommendation places high value on the evidence from one RCT of the inferiority of dabigatran compared to warfarin for the prevention of thromboembolism in patients with a mechanical prosthetic valve. It places relatively high value on the long experience and clinical reports of the use of warfarin in patients with aortic stenosis and patients with CrCl 15–30 mL/min and the absence of such information for NOACs.

Verma, Atul et al. 2014 Focused Update of the CCS Guidelines for the Management of AF. Can J Cardiol 2014;30:1114-1130

AF Stroke Prevention Challenges in CKD

Dosage of Oral Anticoagulants Based on Renal Function

CrCl	Warfarin	Dabigatran	Rivaroxaban	Apixaban	Edoxaban
CrCl ≥30 mL/min	Dose adjusted for APTT/INR	150 mg BID	15 mg BID	5 mg BID	6 mg BID
CrCl 30-49 mL/min	Dose adjusted for APTT/INR	Consider 110 mg bid in patients on 150 mg bid	10 mg BID	3 mg BID (2 mg BID)	3 mg BID
CrCl 15-29 mL/min	No RCT Data ¹	No RCT Data ²	No RCT Data ³	No RCT Data ⁴	No RCT Data ⁵
CrCl <15 mL/min (or on dialysis)	No RCT Data ¹	No RCT Data ²	No RCT Data ³	No RCT Data ⁴	No RCT Data ⁵

1. No studies. 2. One observational study. 3. RCT observational trial. 4. Dabigatran (110 mg BID) vs. warfarin (5 mg BID). 5. Dabigatran (110 mg BID) vs. warfarin (5 mg BID). 6. Dabigatran (110 mg BID) vs. warfarin (5 mg BID). 7. Dabigatran (110 mg BID) vs. warfarin (5 mg BID).

http://www.ccs.ca/images/Guidelines/PocketGuide_EN/AF_Gui_2018_PG_EN_web.pdf

AF Stroke Prevention Challenges in CKD

Study	Drug	Stroke Rate per 100 Person-Years	Bleeding Rate per 100 Person-Years
Warfarin vs. Novel Oral Anticoagulants	Warfarin	~11.1	~6.6
Dabigatran vs. Warfarin	Dabigatran	~6.6	~9.6
Rivaroxaban vs. Warfarin	Rivaroxaban	~6.6	~7.1
Apixaban vs. Warfarin	Apixaban	~6.6	~5.6
Edoxaban vs. Warfarin	Edoxaban	~6.6	~6.6

Jegathevaran, J et al. Anticoagulation in Patients With Advanced Chronic Kidney Disease: Walking the Fine Line Between Benefit and Harm. Canadian Journal of Cardiology, Volume 35, Issue 9, 1241 - 1255

AF Stroke Prevention Challenges in CKD

Apixaban

Table 12 – Dosage and Administration for Patients According to Renal Function

Indication	Renal Impairment				
	Normal	Mild	Moderate	Severe	>13 mL/min or patients undergoing dialysis
Stroke prevention in patients with atrial fibrillation	5 mg BID	3 mg BID	3 mg BID	3 mg BID	3 mg BID

Note: Dose adjustment to 2.5 mg BID, if ≥2 of following criteria are met:
 • Age ≥ 88 years
 • Body weight $<$ 60 kg
 • Serum creatinine 1.33-1.50 mg/dL

These patients have been determined to be at higher risk of bleeding. Eliquis Product Monograph. Pfizer Canada 2019.

AF Stroke Prevention Challenges in CKD

Rivaroxaban

Table 12 - Dosing and Administration for Patients According to Renal Function

Indication	Normal renal function		Severe* CrCl < 30 mL/min	eGFR < 30 mL/min
	Normal renal function	Mild to Moderate renal impairment		
Prevention of VTE After THA of DKA	15 mg qd	15 mg qd	15 mg qd	15 mg qd
Treatment of VTE and Prevention of Recurrent DVT and PE	15 mg bid for 3 weeks followed by 20 mg qd	15 mg bid for 3 weeks followed by 20 mg qd	15 mg bid	15 mg bid
Prevention of recurrent DVT and PE following completion of anticoagulation with another agent	15 mg qd or 20 mg qd	15 mg qd	15 mg qd	15 mg qd
Prevention of Stroke and Systemic Embolism in Patients with Atrial Fibrillation	20 mg qd	15 mg qd	15 mg qd	15 mg qd
Stroke, TIA, and Prevention of ALE and Mortality in Patients with CAD with or without PAD	2.5 mg bid + ASA 75 mg - 100 mg qd	2.5 mg bid + ASA 75 mg - 100 mg qd	2.5 mg bid + ASA 75 mg - 100 mg qd	2.5 mg bid + ASA 75 mg - 100 mg qd

Xarelto Product Monograph, Bayer Canada 2019.

AF Stroke Prevention Challenges in CKD

Rivaroxaban data in CrCl 15-29mL/min:

- **Limited RCT data:**
 - ROCKET-AF: ad-hoc analysis of primary efficacy endpoint & safety endpoint by baseline CrCl (n=8 CrCl <30mL/min)
 - EINSTEIN-DVT and EINSTEIN-PE: n=21 CrCl <30mL/min, none of which experienced a recurrent VTE or major bleed
- **Observational data:** XANTUS
 - n=75 CrCl 15-29mL/min
 - CrCl <50mL/min was similar to ROCKET-AF results
- **PK/PD single dose study** (n=32 for all renal subgroups)
 - t_{1/2} 9.5hr in those with CrCl <30mL/min (vs 8.3hrs)
 - AUC was higher, but maximum plasma concentrations similar (AUC CrCl <30mL/min 64%, CrCl 30-49mL/min 52%, CrCl 50-79mL/min 44%)

AF Stroke Prevention Challenges in CKD

Renal Function	NOAC	Dose	Comments
CrCl ≥ 30 mL/min	Dabigatran	150 mg bid	Standard dose
CrCl 30-50 mL/min	Dabigatran	75 mg bid	Reduced dose
CrCl < 30 mL/min	Dabigatran	Not recommended	
CrCl ≥ 30 mL/min	Apixiban	300 mg bid	Standard dose
CrCl 30-50 mL/min	Apixiban	150 mg bid	Reduced dose
CrCl < 30 mL/min	Apixiban	Not recommended	
CrCl ≥ 30 mL/min	Rivaroxaban	20 mg qd	Standard dose
CrCl 30-50 mL/min	Rivaroxaban	15 mg qd	Reduced dose
CrCl < 30 mL/min	Rivaroxaban	Not recommended	
CrCl ≥ 30 mL/min	Edoxaban	60 mg qd	Standard dose
CrCl 30-50 mL/min	Edoxaban	30 mg qd	Reduced dose
CrCl < 30 mL/min	Edoxaban	Not recommended	

Thrombosis Canada. Suggested Use of NOACs According to Patient Renal Function for Stroke Prevention in AF.

AF Stroke Prevention Challenges in CKD

SASKATCHEWAN DRUG PLAN

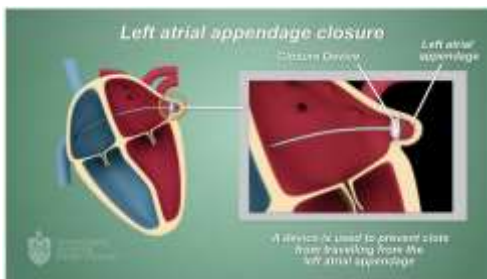
Generic Name: **EDOXABAN**, 300 mg tablets

Drug Detail

INDICATION (S)

For the prevention of stroke and systemic embolism in adult patients with atrial fibrillation (AF) who are not on oral anticoagulation therapy. It is not recommended for the prevention of stroke and systemic embolism in patients with AF who are on oral anticoagulation therapy. It is not recommended for the prevention of stroke and systemic embolism in patients with AF who are on oral anticoagulation therapy. It is not recommended for the prevention of stroke and systemic embolism in patients with AF who are on oral anticoagulation therapy.

AF Stroke Prevention Challenges in CKD



<https://www.svhhealth.com.au/procedures/procedures-treatments/left-atrial-appendage-closure>

AF Stroke Prevention Challenges in CKD

CCS AF Guidelines

What are the key points?

• Oral NOACs are preferred over warfarin for stroke prevention in AF patients with normal renal function.

• Warfarin is preferred over NOACs in patients with renal impairment.

• Dabigatran is preferred over NOACs in patients with renal impairment.

• Rivaroxaban is preferred over NOACs in patients with renal impairment.

• Edoxaban is preferred over NOACs in patients with renal impairment.

• Aspirin is preferred over NOACs in patients with renal impairment.

AF Stroke Prevention Challenges in CKD

Table 1. Selected lower guidelines on anticoagulation therapy

Guideline	Stroke risk	Anticoagulation recommendation	Notes	Reference
Canadian Cardiovascular Society Guidelines 2014	Non-valvular AF	Class IIa: Consider oral anti-thrombotic therapy with DOACs in patients with stroke risk who are not high risk for bleeding. Class IIb: Consider oral anti-thrombotic therapy with DOACs in patients with stroke risk who are not high risk for bleeding. Class III: Do not use oral anti-thrombotic therapy with DOACs in patients with stroke risk who are high risk for bleeding.	DOACs preferred to heparin in CKD	(1)
ACC/AHA 2014	Non-valvular AF	Class IIa: Consider oral anti-thrombotic therapy with DOACs in patients with stroke risk who are not high risk for bleeding. Class IIb: Consider oral anti-thrombotic therapy with DOACs in patients with stroke risk who are not high risk for bleeding. Class III: Do not use oral anti-thrombotic therapy with DOACs in patients with stroke risk who are high risk for bleeding.	DOACs preferred to VKAs in CKD patients, but the data on anticoagulation in patients with stroke risk who are high risk for bleeding are limited. Patients on dialysis have limited data on DOACs.	(1)
ESC/ESH 2016	Non-valvular AF	Class IIa: Consider oral anti-thrombotic therapy with DOACs in patients with stroke risk who are not high risk for bleeding. Class IIb: Consider oral anti-thrombotic therapy with DOACs in patients with stroke risk who are not high risk for bleeding. Class III: Do not use oral anti-thrombotic therapy with DOACs in patients with stroke risk who are high risk for bleeding.	DOACs preferred to VKAs in CKD patients, but the data on anticoagulation in patients with stroke risk who are high risk for bleeding are limited. Patients on dialysis have limited data on DOACs.	(2)
ACC/AHA 2014	Valvular aortic stenosis	Class IIa: Consider oral anti-thrombotic therapy with DOACs in patients with stroke risk who are not high risk for bleeding. Class IIb: Consider oral anti-thrombotic therapy with DOACs in patients with stroke risk who are not high risk for bleeding. Class III: Do not use oral anti-thrombotic therapy with DOACs in patients with stroke risk who are high risk for bleeding.	DOACs preferred to VKAs in CKD patients, but the data on anticoagulation in patients with stroke risk who are high risk for bleeding are limited. Patients on dialysis have limited data on DOACs.	(1, 3, 4)

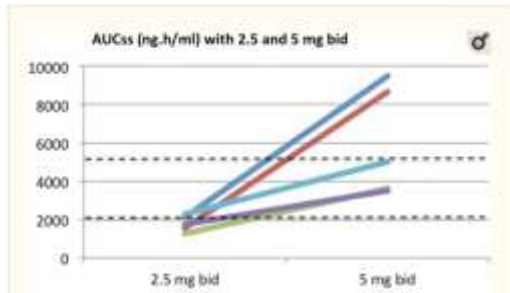
Burlacu A et al. Pros and cons of antithrombotic therapy in ESKD: a 2019 update. *Nephrol Dial Transplant.* 2019 Jun 1;34(6):923-933.

AF Stroke Prevention Challenges in CKD

Table 2. Chronic kidney disease categories lacking randomized clinical trial data on the safety of anticoagulation^{1,2,3,4,5}

DOAC (indication)	Study/Study	Population	Drug/Drug	Stroke/Stroke	Bleeding/Bleeding
DOAC (non-valvular AF)	Adjusted dose for GFR	3-3 mg (DOAC) vs 1 mg (DOAC)	Warfarin (1 mg PO)	DOAC (DOAC) vs 1 mg (DOAC)	DOAC (DOAC) vs 1 mg (DOAC)
DOAC (non-valvular AF)	Adjusted dose for GFR	3-3 mg (DOAC) vs 1 mg (DOAC)	Warfarin (1 mg PO)	DOAC (DOAC) vs 1 mg (DOAC)	DOAC (DOAC) vs 1 mg (DOAC)
DOAC (non-valvular AF)	Adjusted dose for GFR	3-3 mg (DOAC) vs 1 mg (DOAC)	Warfarin (1 mg PO)	DOAC (DOAC) vs 1 mg (DOAC)	DOAC (DOAC) vs 1 mg (DOAC)

Turakhia MP et al. Chronic kidney disease and arrhythmias: conclusions from a Kidney Disease: Improving Global Outcomes (KDIGO) Controversies Conference. *Eur Heart J.* 2018 Jun 21;39(24):2314-2325.



Comparison of the PK parameters of steady state (i.e., after 8 days of agonist administration) achieved with the reduced dose (2.5 mg twice daily) and with the standard dose (5 mg twice daily) of agonist. The dotted lines represent the 10th and 90th percentiles of the predicted levels for the 5-mg twice daily dose in patients with preserved renal function (5th and 95th percentiles for C_{cr}). AUC_{ss} area under the concentration-time curve at steady state; bid, twice daily.

Mavrakas TA et al. Apixaban Pharmacokinetics at Steady State in Hemodialysis Patients. *J Am Soc Nephrol.* 2017 Jul;28(7):2241-2248.

What if Ms. Knitter was large or small?

What if she weighed 112 or 122 kg?



• Estimated that by 2019 (now), more than 55% of the Canadian population will be overweight or obese. (Twells L et al. *CMAJ Open* 2014;2(1):E18.

Weight Based Dosing of NOACs Go To Sources....

- CCPN SPAF Tool - X
- Thrombosis Canada: DOACs in Obese Patients – Guide
 - “data on the clinical efficacy and safety of DOACs in obese patients are limited. NO randomized controlled trials have examined the safety and efficacy of DOACs only in obese patients. Overall, <20% of patients in DOAC trials weighed >90-100kg...”
 - “if DOACs are to be used in patients with a BMI>40 or >120 kg, this should be as a last resort (ie. When vitamin K antagonists cannot be used) and patients should be informed of the limitations of the available information and potential risk of underdosing”
- 2018 European Practical Guide¹:
 - “because of limited data in extreme obesity, the use of VKA in patients with a BMI> 40 kg/m² or weight > 120 kg should be considered... in rare cases when a NOAC is needed in such circumstances, specific measurements of drug trough levels should be considered... under the guidance of a hematologist...”

Steffel J et al. The 2018 European Heart Rhythm Association Practical Guide on the use of non-vitamin K antagonist oral anticoagulants in patients with atrial fibrillation. *European Heart Journal* 2018;39:1330-1339

ARISTOTLE Subgroup analysis: Efficacy and Safety Outcomes Stratified by Weight Categories for Apixaban vs Warfarin Use - Weight > 120 kg (n=982)

Weight > 120 kg	Apixaban Rate (n*)	Warfarin Rate (n*)	Hazard Ratio (95% CI) Apixaban vs Warfarin
Efficacy Endpoints			
Stroke or systemic embolism	0.44 (4)	1.13 (11)	0.387 (0.123 to 1.215)
Stroke	0.44 (4)	1.03 (10)	0.426 (0.134 to 1.357)
Ischemic or uncertain stroke	0.44 (4)	0.61 (6)	0.711 (0.201 to 2.521)
Hemorrhagic stroke	0.00 (0)	0.41 (4)	-
All cause death	3.00 (28)	2.52 (25)	1.190 (0.694 to 2.042)
Myocardial infarction	0.33 (3)	0.41 (4)	0.806 (0.180 to 3.600)
Safety Endpoints			
Major bleeding	1.55 (13)	2.08 (19)	0.742 (0.366 to 1.502)
Major or CRNM bleeding	2.77 (23)	4.83 (43)	0.575 (0.347 to 0.954)
Intracranial bleeding	0.00 (0)	0.43 (4)	-
GI bleeding	0.47 (4)	0.33 (3)	1.436 (0.321 to 6.416)
Any bleeding	16.44 (119)	25.13 (176)	0.670 (0.531 to 0.846)

*Rate per 100 patient years.
CI, confidence interval; CRNM, clinically relevant non-major GI gastrointestinal.

0 0.5 1 1.5 2 2.5 3 3.5 4 4.5 5 5.5 6 6.5

Favor Apixaban Favor Warfarin

Hohnloser et al. Efficacy and safety of apixaban versus warfarin in patients with atrial fibrillation and extremes in body weight: insights from the ARISTOTLE trial. Circ 2019. 110.1161/CirculationAHA.118.037955

Comparative Effectiveness and Safety of Rivaroxaban and Warfarin among Morbidly Obese Patients with AF: Propensity Matched Cohort

	Rivaroxaban (n=3563)	Warfarin (n=3563)	OR (95% CI)	P value
Follow up time (months), mean (SD)	10.27 (2.89)	10.56 (2.70)	-0.29 (-0.42, -0.16)	<0.0001
Composite risk of ischemic stroke/systemic embolism, n(%)	52 (1.5%)	59 (1.7%)	0.88 (0.60, 1.28)	0.5028
Time to first composite event (days), mean (SD)	111.87 (107.01)	125.90 (105.65)	0.90 (0.62, 1.30)	0.5690
Risk of major bleeding, n (%)	77 (2.2)	96 (2.7)	0.80 (0.59, 1.08)	0.1447
Time to first major bleeding event (days), mean (SD)	127.99 (97.22)	147.56 (110.65)	0.82 (0.61, 1.10)	0.1878

Peterson E et al. Comparative effectiveness, safety and costs of rivaroxaban and Warfarin among morbidly obese patients with atrial fibrillation. Am Heart J 2019; doi:10.1016/j.ahj.2019.02.001

What if she were small?

- What drugs cause less bleeding?
- What guidance do we have?

Risks and Benefits of NOACs Compared with Warfarin (NNT/NNH)

Clinical Outcome	Apixaban (20mg bid), HR, NNT per 2 years	Dabigatran (150 mg bid), HR, NNT or NNH per 2 years	Edoxaban (60 mg daily), HR, NNT or NNH per 3 years	Rivaroxaban (20mg daily), HR or RR, NNT or NNH per 3 years
Stroke or SE	Superiority vs W HR=0.79 (0.64-0.95) NNT=168	Superiority vs W HR=0.66 (0.53-0.82) NNT=91	Non-inferiority vs W HR=0.79 (0.63-0.99)	Non-inferiority vs W HR=0.79 (0.65-0.95), NNT=134*
Intracranial bleed	Superiority vs W HR=0.35 (0.15-0.75) NNT=238	Superiority vs W HR=0.35 (0.14-0.49), NNT=182	Superiority vs W HR=0.44 (0.28-0.77), NNT=172	Superiority vs W HR=0.57 (0.47-0.69), NNT=247
Major bleed	Superiority vs W HR=0.69 (0.60-0.80) NNT=79	NS HR=0.93 (0.81-1.07)	Superiority vs W HR=0.68 (0.51-0.91), NNT=66	NS HR=1.04 (0.90-1.20)
GI bleed	NS HR=0.89 (0.70-1.12)	Inferior vs W HR=1.50 (1.19-1.89), NNH=100	Inferior vs W HR=1.23 (1.02-1.50), NNH=167	Inferior vs W HR=1.45, NNH=101
Any cause of death	Superiority vs W HR=0.89 (0.80-0.99), NNT=132	NS HR=0.88 (0.77-1.00)	HR=0.89 (0.83-1.01)	HR=0.89 (0.70-1.02), NS

* Indication for treatment analysis (stroke/systemic embolism) not on superiority was not demonstrated in IT analysis.
1. Hohnloser et al. Circulation 2019;140:1069-1076.
2. Piccini et al. Am Heart J 2019;180:1049-1056.
3. Piccini et al. Am Heart J 2019;180:1049-1056.
4. Piccini et al. Am Heart J 2019;180:1049-1056.
5. Piccini et al. Am Heart J 2019;180:1049-1056.
6. Piccini et al. Am Heart J 2019;180:1049-1056.

Dosing of DOACs is Important (AF):

DOAC	Usual Starting Dose	Dosing adjustment Criteria
Apixaban (Eliquis)	5 mg BID	2.5 mg BID if any 2 of the following criteria: Age ≥ 80 years Body weight ≤ 60 kg Creatinine ≤ 53 μmol/L
Dabigatran (Pradaxa)	150 mg BID	no mg BID if: - Age ≥ 80 or - CrCl 30-50 mL/min
Edoxaban (Lixiana)	60 mg OD	30 mg once daily if: CrCl 30-50 mL/min body weight ≤ 60 kg concomitant use of P-gp inhibitors except amiodarone and verapamil
Rivaroxaban (Xarelto)	20 mg OD taken with food	15 mg OD taken with food if CrCl 30-49 mL/min

Rates of Major Bleeding and the Effect of Apixaban Compared with Warfarin

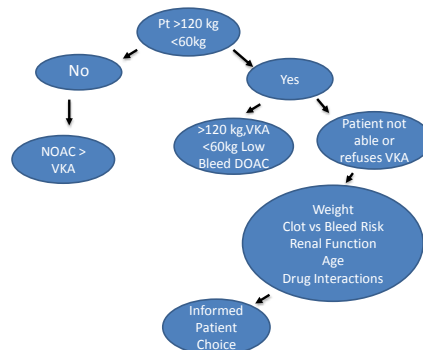
Subgroup	No of Events (Annual %)		
	Apixaban Tx	Warfarin Tx	HR (95% CI)
No dose reduction criteria	204 (1.8)	279 (2.5)	0.7 (0.6-0.9)
1 dose reduction criteria	102 (3.2)	145 (4.8)	0.7 (0.5-0.9)
Criteria:			
Age ≥ 80	46 (3.5)	61 (4.9)	0.7 (0.5-1.1)
Weight ≤ 60kg	26 (2.3)	44 (4.0)	0.6 (0.4-0.9)
Creat ≥ 133	30 (4.2)	40 (5.8)	0.7 (0.5-1.2)

ARISTOTLE Subgroup analysis: Efficacy and Safety Outcomes Stratified by Weight Categories for Apixaban vs Warfarin

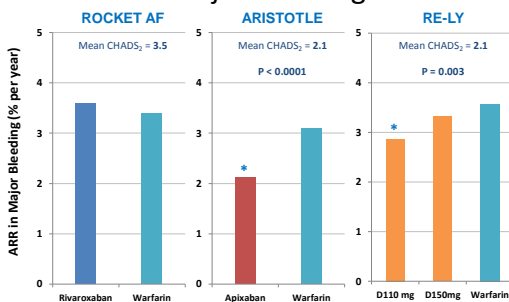
	Apixaban	Warfarin	Apixaban vs Warfarin HR
Major Bleeding			
≤ 60 kg	2.33 (36)	4.28 (62)	0.55 (0.36-0.82)
61-120kg	2.15 (277)	3.02 (370)	0.71 (0.61-0.93)
>120kg	1.55 (13)	2.08 (19)	0.74 (0.37-1.50)
GI Bleeding			
≤ 60 kg	0.90 (14)	1.09 (16)	0.84 (0.41-1.72)
61-120kg	0.67 (87)	0.79 (100)	0.85 (0.64-1.13)
>120kg	0.47 (4)	0.33 (3)	1.44 (0.32-6.42)
Any Bleeding			
≤ 60 kg	18.68 (244)	30.86 (344)	0.62 (0.53-0.73)
61-120kg	18.15 (1987)	25.29 (2528)	0.73 (0.69-0.78)
>120kg	16.44 (119)	25.13 (176)	0.67 (0.53-0.85)

Distribution of patients: ≤ 60 kg (n=1985), >60-120kg (n=15172), ≥120kg (n=982)
Hohnloser et al. Circ 2019 (10.1161/CirculationAHA.118.037955)

Bill's Clinical Approach:



New Anticoagulants vs. Warfarin: Major Bleeding

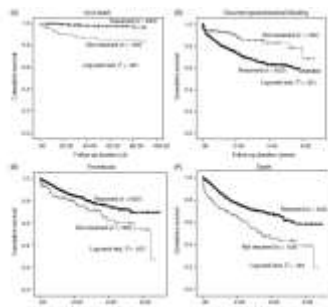


Patel et al. NEJM 2011;365(10):883-91; Connolly et al. NEJM 2009;361(12):1139-51; Granger et al. NEJM 2011;365:981-92

If she does develop an anticoagulant-related major bleed (GI, ICH) what approach do you take?

- Do you restart anticoagulation?
- If so, when?
- Do you change anticoagulant to minimize bleed risk?
- What else can you do to minimize bleed risk?

Outcomes Post GI Bleed



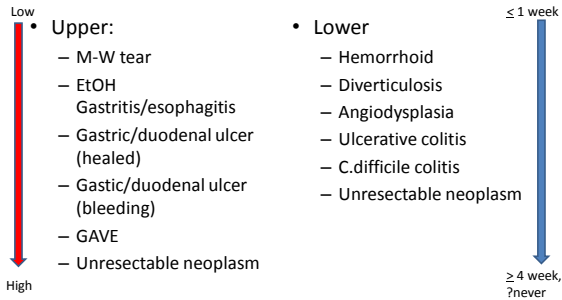
Sostres C et al. Aliment Pharmacol 2019;00:1-11.

What is the risk for TE with anticoagulation interrupted?

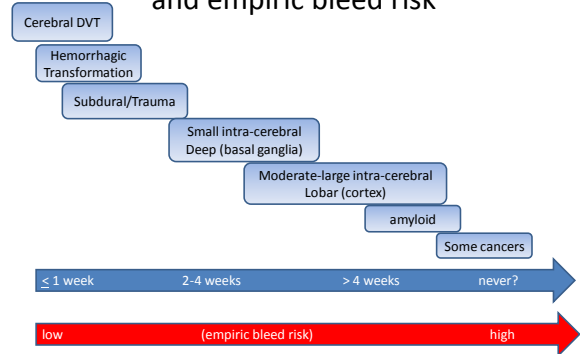
- High –risk (>10%/yr if not anticoagulated)
 - Mechanical mitral valve or older aortic valve, AF and CHADS₂ - ≥ 4
 - Recent (within 3 months) – VTE
- Moderate –risk (5-10%/yr)
 - Bileaflet aortic valve
 - AF and CHADS₂ – 2-3
- Low-risk (<5%/yr)
 - AF and CHADS₂ - low

Tomaselli G et al. JACC 2017. ACC Expert Consensus Decision Pathway on Mgmt of Bleeding in Patients on Oral Anticoagulants

When to resume OAC Post GI Bleed and empiric bleed risk



When to resume OAC Post IC Bleed and empiric bleed risk



Timing of Restart OAC after GI or IC Bleed

- No prospective data to drive decisions...
- Generally reasonable to restart 7-15 days post GIB and generally longer post ICH
- Individualized patient assessment of risk/benefits should be completed to optimize outcomes

Kido K. Ann Pharmacother 2017;5(11)1000-1007.

After a DOAC bleed, should we switch anticoagulants? Is it safer?

- If taking VKA and develops ICH:
 - Better INR control, control modifiable risk factors
 - Change to DOACs (40-60% RRR for ICH)
- If taking DOAC and develops GI bleed:
 - Apixaban/edoxaban instead of rivaroxaban/dabigatran
- If taking DOAC and any bleed, is dose correct?
 - Dose adjustment guidelines

Eikelboom JW et al. Am J Emerg Med 2016;34:3
Liew A et al. J Thromb Haemost 2014;12:1419
Abraham NS et al. Gastroenterology 2017;152:1014

Other things to decrease bleeding risk...

