

PCC & ME: UPDATES IN REVERSAL OF ORAL ANTICOAGULANTS AND MAJOR BLEEDING

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DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

- I, H Andrew Wilsey, have no conflicts of interest to disclose.

OBJECTIVES

- Recognize the updated guideline recommendations for the management of bleeding in patient on oral anticoagulants.
- Analyze current literature pertaining to efficacy and safety of current reversal strategies for oral anticoagulant-related major bleeding.
- Devise an evidence-based treatment plan to manage major bleeding in patients taking oral anticoagulants.

An anatomical illustration of the human heart, showing the four chambers: the right and left atria and ventricles. The heart is depicted in a cross-section, with the right atrium and ventricle on the left side of the image and the left atrium and ventricle on the right. The color scheme is typical of medical illustrations, with red for oxygenated blood vessels and blue for deoxygenated blood vessels. The heart is positioned centrally, with a dark grey horizontal band overlaid across its middle. The background is plain white.

Atrial Fibrillation & Oral Anticoagulation

TRENDS IN ATRIAL FIBRILLATION

Ageing
Population

High BMI

Hypertension

Diabetes

Chronic lung
disease

Enhanced
detection

LIFETIME RISK FOR ATRIAL FIBRILLATION



1 in 3 individuals
of European ancestry at index age of 55 years

CHADS₂ -> CHA₂DS₂VASc

CHADS2 Risk	Score
CHF	1
Hypertension	1
Age > 75	1
Diabetes	1
Stroke or TIA	2

CHA2DS2-VASc Risk	Score
CHF or LVEF \leq 40%	1
Hypertension	1
Age \geq 75	2
Diabetes	1
Stroke/TIA/ Thromboembolism	2
Vascular Disease	1
Age 65 - 74	1
Female	1

From ESCAF Guidelines

<http://www.escardio.org/guidelines-surveys/esc-guidelines/GuidelinesDocuments/guidelines-afib-FT.pdf>

ANTITHROMBOTIC CONSIDERATIONS

CHEST
2018

- Stroke prevention should be offered to those atrial fibrillation (AF) patients with **one or more non-sex** CHA₂DS₂-VASc stroke risk factors
- *Strong recommendation, moderate quality of evidence*

ACC/AHA/HRS
2019

- CHA₂DS₂-VASc **score of 1 in men and 2 in women**, prescribing an oral anticoagulant to reduce thromboembolic stroke risk may be considered
- *Class IIb recommendation*

ESC
2020

- Anticoagulation should be considered for stroke prevention in AF patients with a CHA₂DS₂-VASc score of **1 in men or 2 in women**
- *Class IIa recommendation*

ANTITHROMBOTIC CONSIDERATIONS

7. In patients with AF who are eligible for OAC, we recommend NOACs over VKA (Strong recommendation, moderate quality evidence).

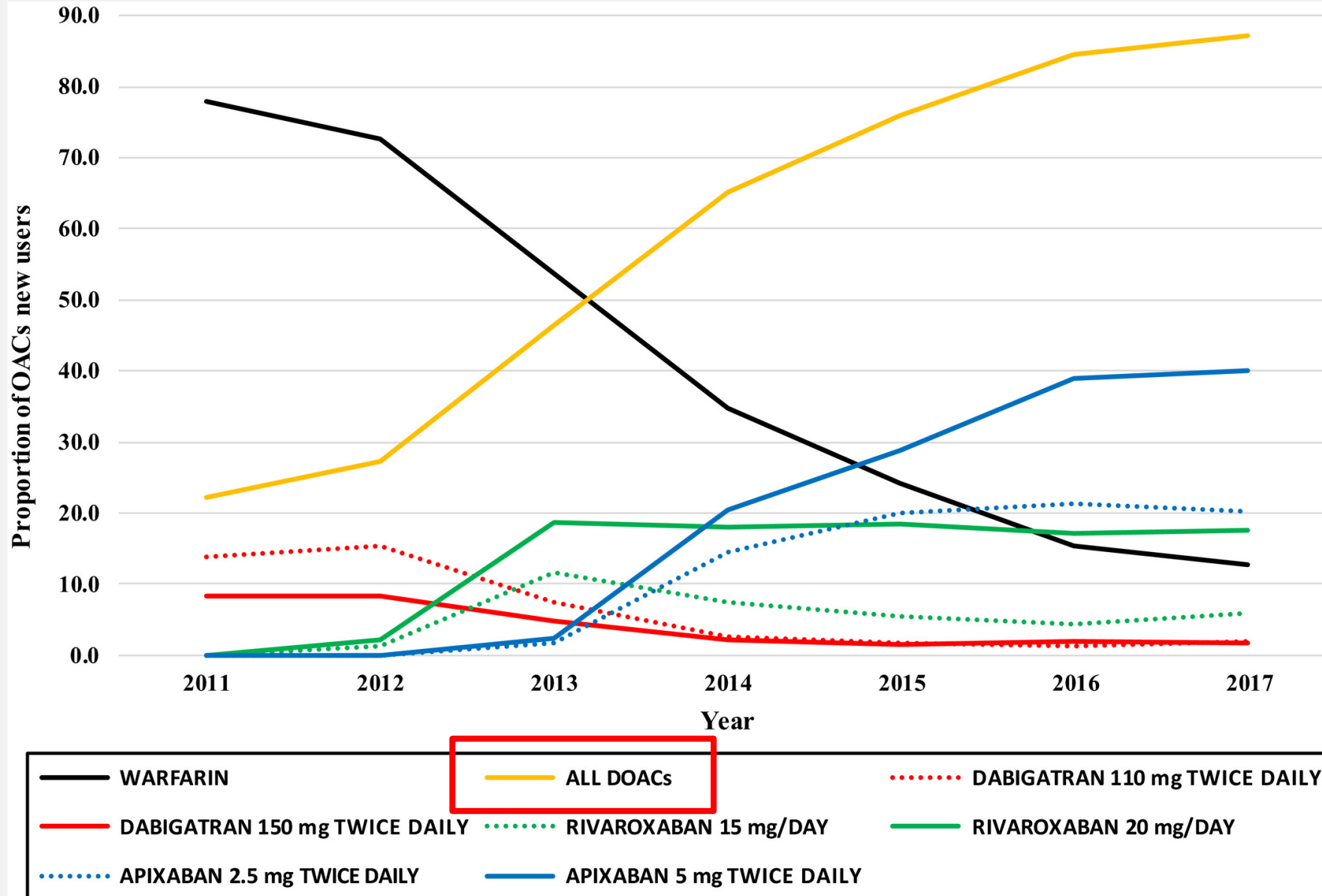
2. NOACs (dabigatran, rivaroxaban, apixaban, and edoxaban) are recommended over warfarin in NOAC-eligible patients with AF (except with moderate-to-severe mitral stenosis or a mechanical heart valve) (S4.1.1-8–S4.1.1-11).

PK/PD

Monitoring

Outcomes

Oral Anticoagulant Prescription Trends, Profile Use, and Determinants of Adherence in Patients with Atrial Fibrillation





Assessing Bleeding Severity

DEFINING MAJOR BLEEDING

Critical Site

Hemodynamic Instability

Overt Bleeding

DEFINING MAJOR BLEEDING

Critical Site

Hemodynamic
Instability

Overt Bleeding

Type of Bleed

- Intracranial
- Intraocular
- Spinal
- Pericardial tamponade
- Airway
- Intra-abdominal
- Retroperitoneal
- Intramuscular

DEFINING MAJOR BLEEDING

Critical Site

Hemodynamic
Instability

Overt Bleeding

Signs of hemodynamic instability

- SBP < 90 mm Hg
- Decrease in SBP by >40 mm Hg
- MAP < 65 mm Hg
- Clinical signs (urine output)

DEFINING MAJOR BLEEDING

Critical Site

Hemodynamic
Instability

Overt Bleeding

Overt bleeding with:

- Hemoglobin drop $\geq 2\text{g/dL}$ *or*
- ≥ 2 units of pRBC

AUDIENCE RESPONSE QUESTION

LM is a 59 YOM admitted for coffee-ground emesis, with past medical history of peptic ulcer disease and atrial fibrillation (on apixaban).

- 132/88 mm Hg | 82 bpm
- Alert and oriented x 3
- Hgb 14.9 g/dL (no prior known)
- No blood products administer

Which criteria does LM meet for a major bleed?

1. Critical site
2. Hemodynamic instability
3. Overt bleeding
4. None, this is a non-major bleed

NON MAJOR BLEEDING

Does the bleed require hospitalization,
surgical/procedural intervention or
transfusion?

YES

NO

NON MAJOR BLEEDING

Does the bleed require hospitalization, surgical/procedural intervention or transfusion?

YES

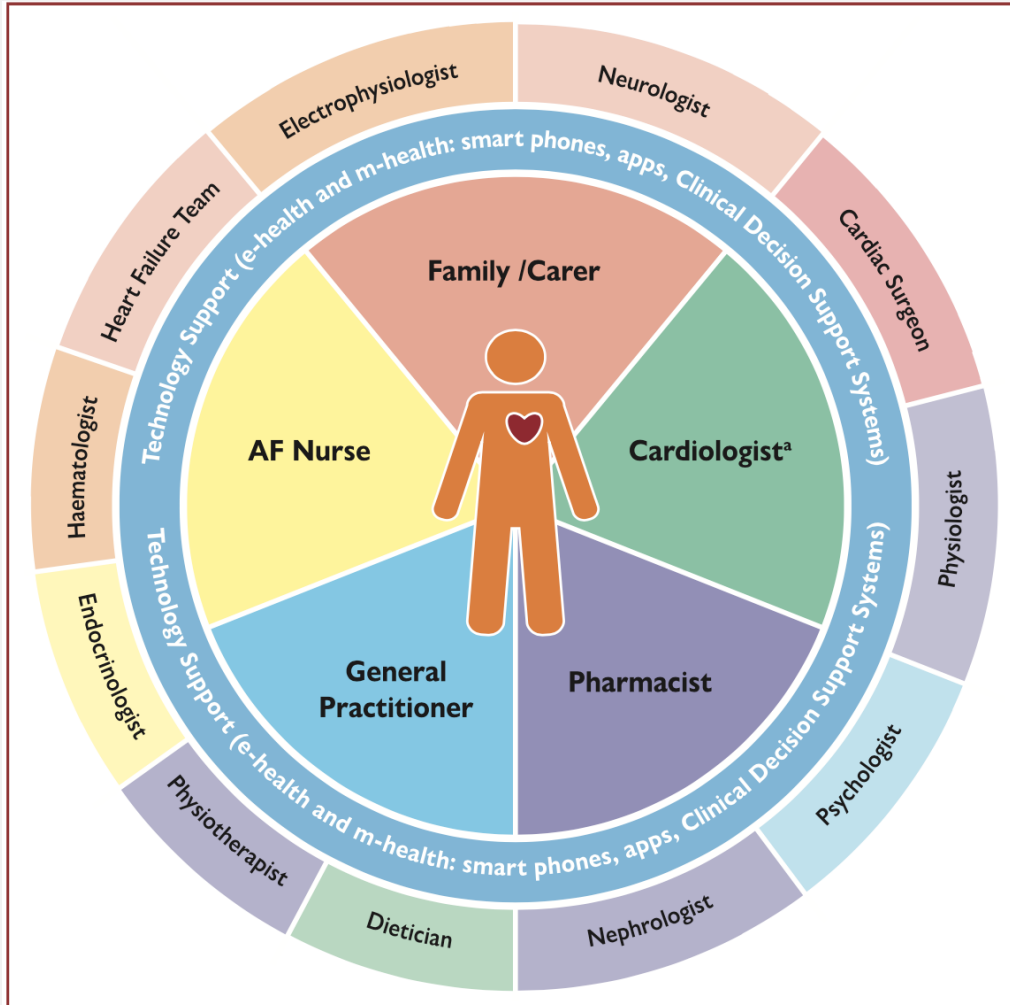
Stop OAC
Initiate bleeding control measures

NO

Continue OAC
Initiate bleeding control measures

* OAC, oral anticoagulation

NON MAJOR BLEEDING



- Has patient's underlying bleeding risk changed?
- Dose appropriate?
- New medications or drug interactions?
- Patient education
- Goals of therapy
- Patient/Family wishes



Reversal of Oral Anticoagulants & Major Bleeding

MAJOR BLEEDING

Is the bleed at a critical site or life threatening?

YES

Stop OAC
Initiate bleeding control measures
Suggest administering reversal agents

MAJOR BLEEDING

Is the bleed at a critical site or life threatening?

YES

NO

Stop OAC

Initiate bleeding control measures

Suggest administering reversal agents

Stop OAC

Initiate bleeding control measures

If on VKA, give IV vitamin K

NO

BLEEDING CONTROL MEASURES

Airway and large-bore intravenous access secured

Local pressure/packing

Volume resuscitation

Hypothermia/acidosis correction

Early involvement of specialty service

LABORATORY ASSESSMENT

TT

- Normal TT excludes dabigatran
- Prolonged does not discriminate

Anti-Xa

- Below limit “probably” excludes apixaban rivaroxban

aPTT

- Normal does not exclude
- Prolonged suggests dabigatran

PT

- Normal does not exclude
- Prolonged suggests apixaban rivaroxban

INR

- Normal level excludes warfarin
- Elevation in relation to exposure

* TT, thrombin time; aPTT activated partial thromboplastin time; PT, prothrombin time; INR, international normalized ratio

AUDIENCE RESPONSE QUESTION

Patient labs

TT: 15 seconds (N: 14-19 seconds)

Anti-Xa LWMH assay: 1.1 IU/mL (N: undetectable)

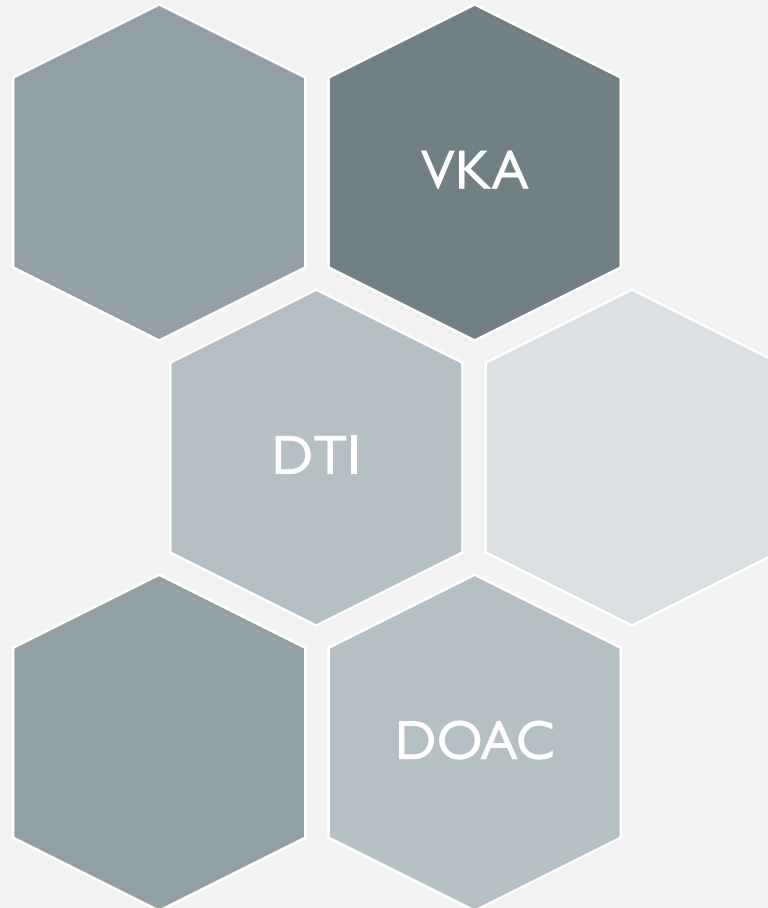
PT: 17 (N: 10-12 seconds)

INR: 1.5 (N: 0.8-1.2)

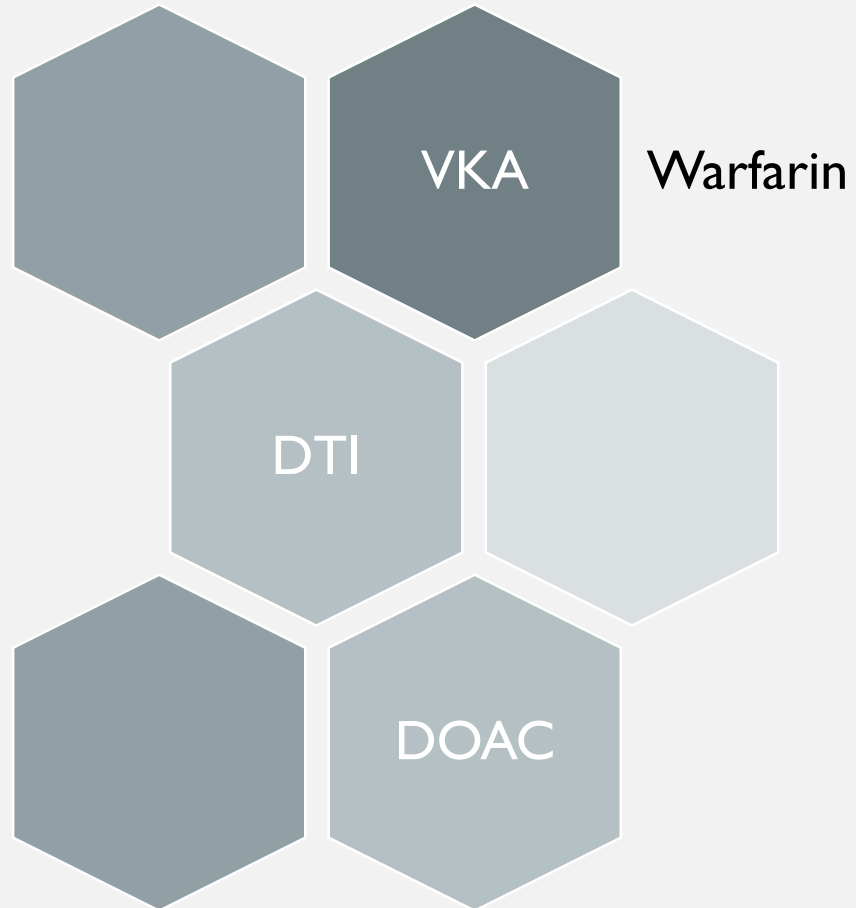
A patient is on an unknown OAC. Based on the labs below, which medication is the patient most likely taking?

1. Warfarin
2. Rivaroxaban
3. Dabigatran
4. OAC unlikely present

AGENT-SPECIFIC REVERSAL CONSIDERATIONS



AGENT-SPECIFIC REVERSAL CONSIDERATIONS



BLEEDING MANAGEMENT

Give 5-10 mg IV
vitamin K

- IV administration over 15-30 minutes
 - Onset 4-6 hours
- Subcutaneous route is NOT recommended



Administer
4F-PCC

- INR-based dosing
 - 2-4: 25 units/kg
 - 4-6: 35 units/kg
 - >6: 50 units/kg
- ~OR~
- Low fixed-dose
 - 1,000 units any non-ICH
 - 1,500 units for ICH

PCC FIXED DOSING

Scott et al 2018

- Retrospective, single-center cohort study (n=61)
- 4F-PCC 1000 units vs per package insert in ICH patients
- No significant difference in reaching goal INR, repeat dosing, or in-hospital mortality

PCC FIXED DOSING

Scott et al 2018

- Retrospective, single-center cohort study (n=61)
- 4F-PCC 1000 units vs per package insert in ICH patients
- No significant difference in reaching goal INR, repeat dosing, or in-hospital mortality

Gilbert et al 2019

- Retrospective, single-center cohort study (n=60)
- 4F-CC 1500 units ICH or 1000 units other vs per package insert
- No significant differences in reaching INR goal, hospital length of stay, or mortality

RCT completed, pending results
(NCT03064035)

AUDIENCE RESPONSE QUESTION

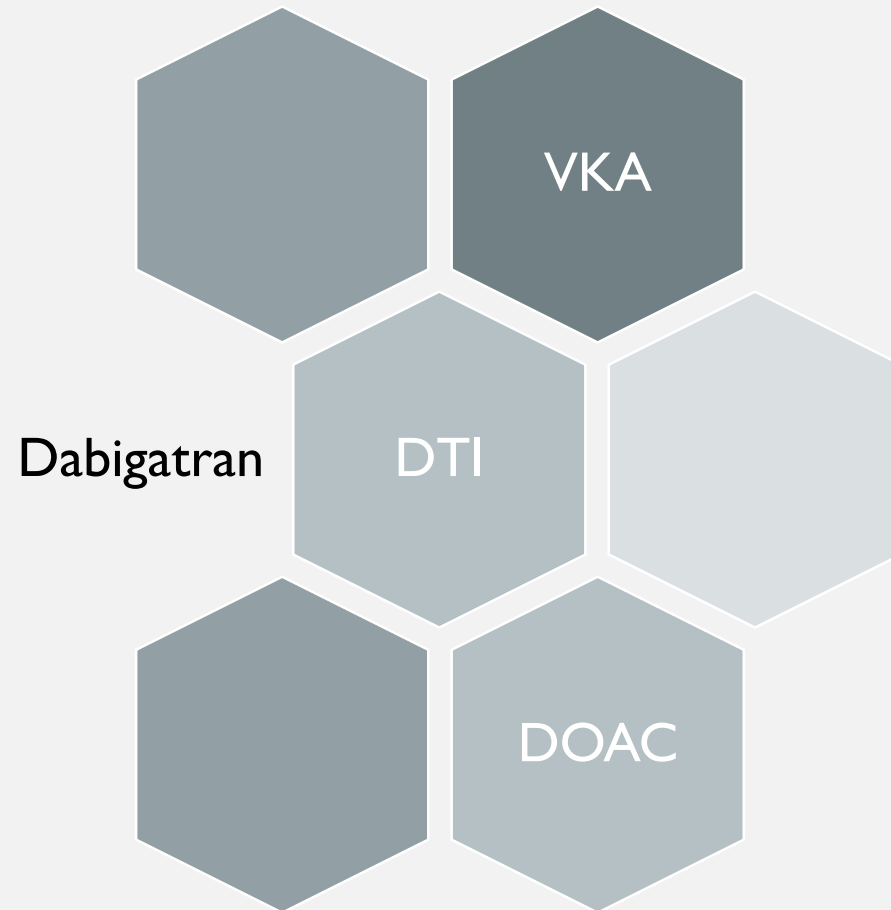
HG is a 54 YOF with PMH of mechanical MVR currently taking warfarin. She is admitted following a motor vehicle accident, found to have traumatic retroperitoneal bleeding.

- INR 3.3
- Weight: 75kg

Per the ACC 2020 guidelines, which is an appropriate 4F-PCC dosing strategy?

1. 800 units
2. 1000 units
3. 1500 units
4. 2600 units

AGENT-SPECIFIC REVERSAL CONSIDERATIONS



BLEEDING MANAGEMENT

In patients with dabigatran-associated major bleeding, whom a reversal agent is warranted, we suggest treatment with **idarucizmab 5 g IV**.

If unavailable:

- Administer aPCC (Anticoagulation Forum 2019)
- Administer either PCC or aPCC (ACC 2020)

Hemodialysis

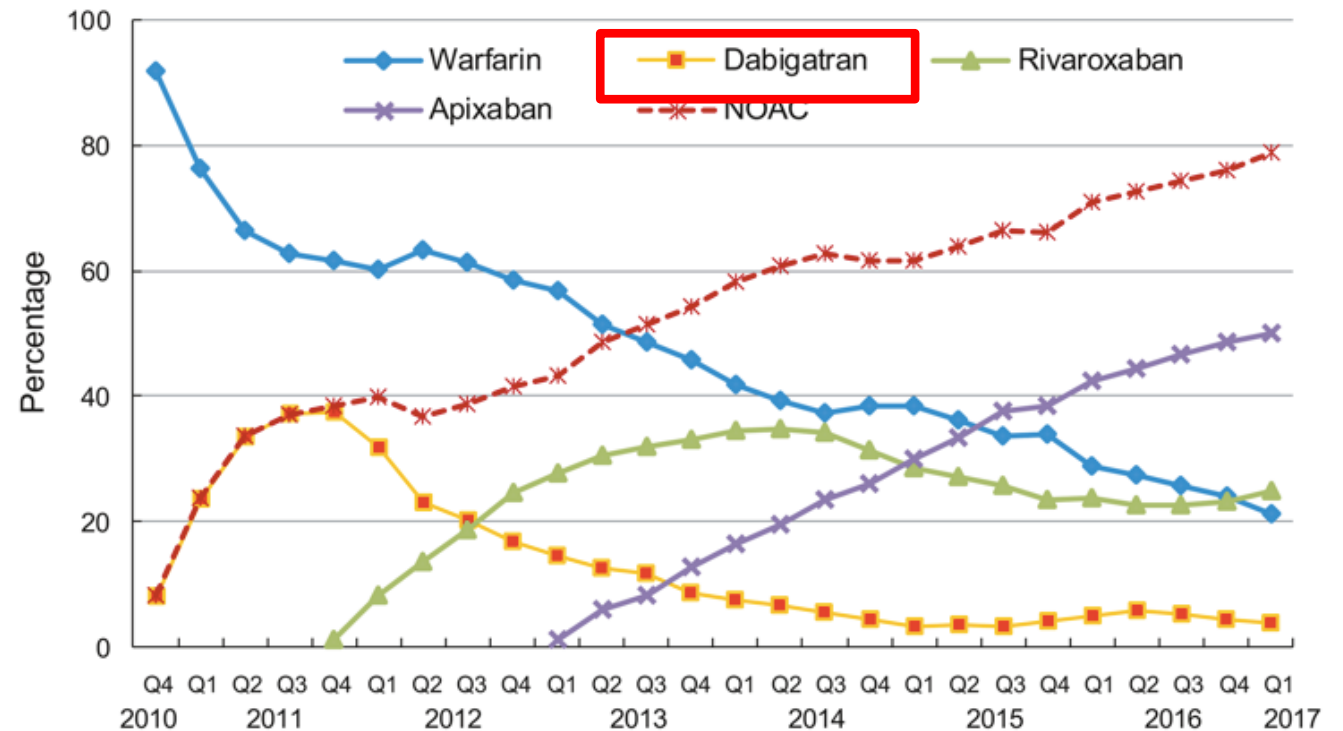
Activated
charcoal

Rebound

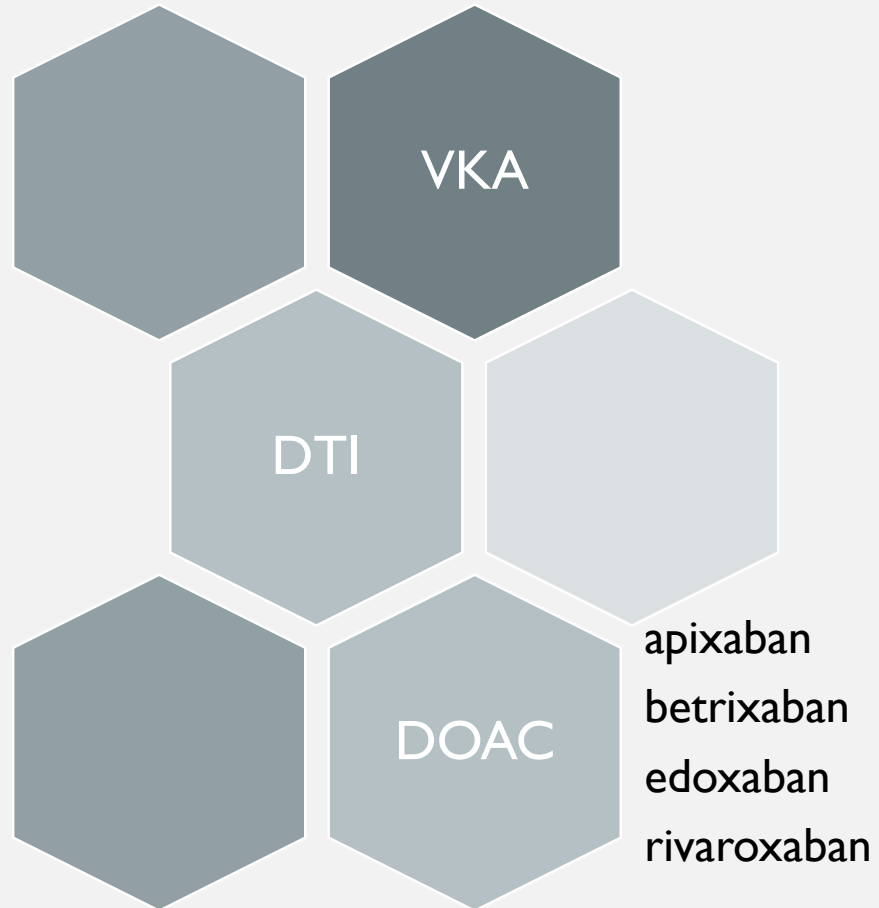
BLEEDING MANAGEMENT

- Clinical pharmacist should review appropriateness of dabigatran selection
- Dabigatran associated with **higher incidence of major bleeding**, regardless of anatomical site

Trends and Variation in Oral Anticoagulant Choice in Patients with Atrial Fibrillation, 2010–2017



AGENT-SPECIFIC REVERSAL CONSIDERATIONS





DOAC GUIDELINE SUMMARY

ACC 2017

- Administer 4F-PCC 50 units/kg
- If unavailable, consider aPCC 50 units/kg

ASH 2018

- Panel suggests using **either** 4F-PCC or andexanet alfa

Anticoagulation Forum 2019

- Suggest treatment with andexanet alfa.
- If not available, suggest 2000 units 4F-PCC

ACC 2020

- Administer andexanet alfa
- If unavailable, administer PCC or aPCC.
- It is reasonable to dose 4F-PCC at fixed dose 2000 units



DOAC GUIDELINE SUMMARY

ACC 2017

- Administer 4F-PCC 50 units/kg
- If unavailable, consider aPCC 50 units/kg

ASH 2018

- Panel suggests using either 4F-PCC or andexanet alfa

Anticoagulation Forum 2019

• Administer 4F-PCC 50 units/kg

ACC 2020

• Administer 4F-PCC 50 units/kg or high-dose aPCC at fixed dose 2000 units

In patients with edoxaban or betrixaban related bleeding, administer off-label treatment with high-dose andexanet alfa




SPECIFIC REVERSAL STRATEGY

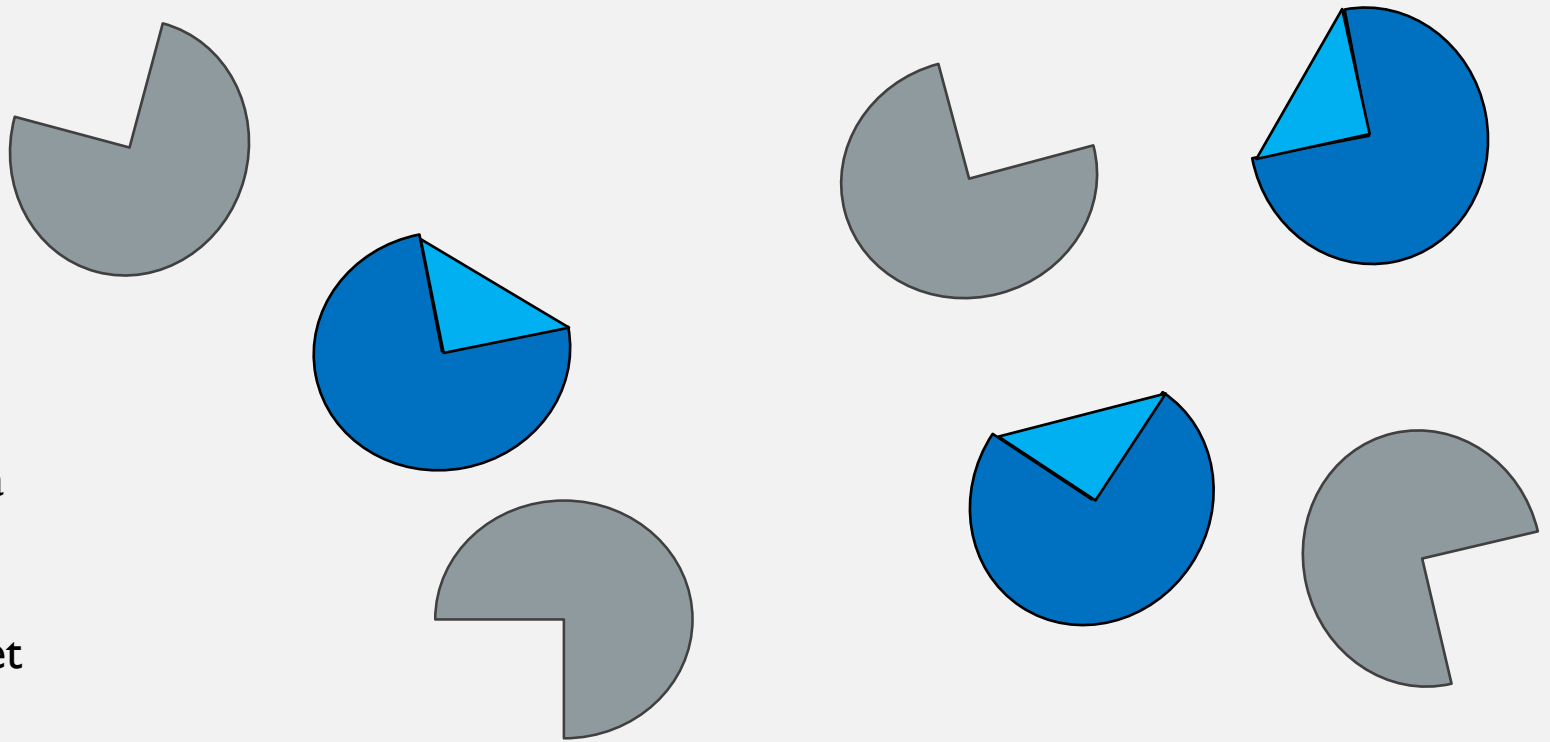
- Andexanet alfa is a recombinant, modified human factor Xa decoy protein
- Gained FDA approval May 2018



DOAC




ANDEXANET ALFA MECHANISM OF ACTION

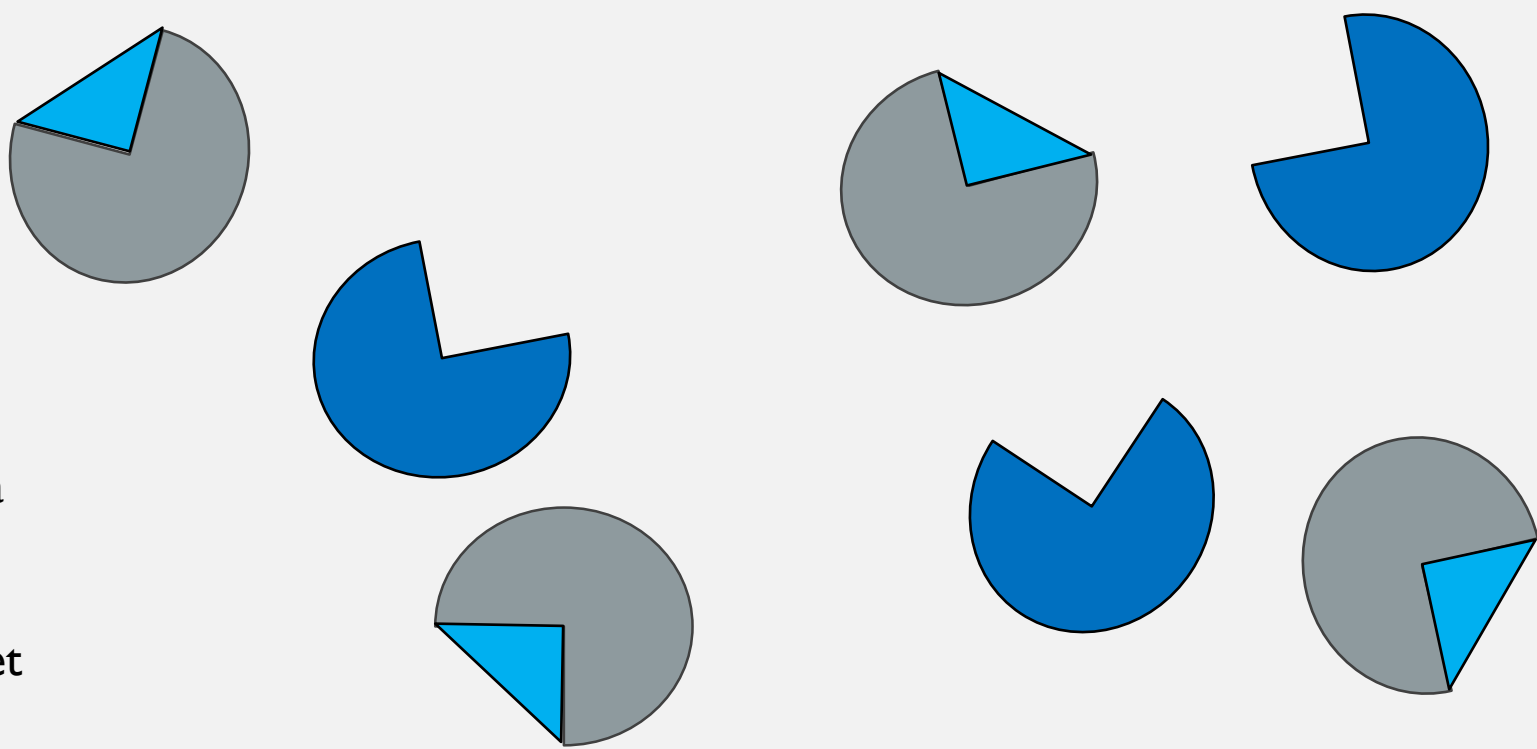
-  Factor Xa inhibitor
-  Andexanet alfa
-  Factor Xa



DOAC

ANDEXANET ALFA MECHANISM OF ACTION

-  Factor Xa inhibitor
-  Andexanet alfa
-  Factor Xa



The NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE


ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Full Study Report of Andexanet Alfa for Bleeding Associated with Factor Xa Inhibitors

S.J. Connolly, M. Crowther, J.W. Eikelboom, C.M. Gibson, J.T. Curnutte, J.H. Lawrence, P. Yue, M.D. Bronson, G. Lu, P.B. Conley, P. Verhamme, J. Schmidt, S. Middeldorp, A.T. Cohen, J. Beyer-Westendorf, P. Albaladejo, J. Lopez-Sendon, A.M. Demchuk, D.J. Pallin, M. Concha, S. Goodman, J. Leeds, S. Souza, D.M. Siegal, E. Zotova, B. Meeks, S. Ahmad, J. Nakamya, and T.J. Milling, Jr., for the ANNEXA-4 Investigators*

PATIENT POPULATION

edoxaban n=4



- **Inclusion:**
- Reported to have received FXa inhibitor within the past 18 hours, experiencing acute major bleed*

- **Exclusion:**
- Surgery \leq 12 hours after presentation
- GSC <7
- ICH volume $>60\text{mL}$
- Expected survival <1 month
- Major thrombotic event within 2 weeks

**Potentially life-threatening acute overt bleeding with signs and symptoms of hemodynamic compromise, Hgb drop $>2\text{g/dL}$ or baseline $<8\text{g/dL}$, or symptomatic bleeding in critical site*



ANNEXA-4

Acute major bleeding



15-30 minute bolus & 2 hour infusion

Reported apixaban or >7 hours from last dose:
Bolus 400mg
+
Infusion of 480mg at 4mg/min

Reported enoxaparin, edoxaban, or rivaroxaban \leq 7 hours from last dose OR unknown time:
Bolus 800mg
+
Infusion of 960mg at 8mg/min

CO-PRIMARY ENDPOINTS

“Overall, there was no significant relationship between hemostatic efficacy and a reduction in anti-factor Xa activity during andexanet treatment”



RESULTS

82% of the patients had excellent or good hemostasis at 12 hours after the infusion

10% of patients experienced thrombotic events

14% of patients died at 30 days



SAFETY

Characteristic	Total (%)	<6 days	6-14 days	15-30 days
≥ 1 VTE within 30 days	30 (10)	11	11	12
Death within 30 days	49 (14)	8	21	20
Restart of any anticoagulation	220 (62)	145 (41)	46 (13)	29 (8)
Event after restart	8 (2)			
Restart of <u>oral</u> anticoagulation	100 (28)	31 (9)	37 (11)	32 (9)
Event after restart	0			



ANNEXA-4 LIMITATIONS

No comparator

Time to administration

Time to hemostatic effect

Clinical evaluation timing

Surgical population

Reduced clearance and/or rebleeding



ANDEXANET LIMITATIONS

Cost

For an unknown ingestion, average wholesale cost of \$59,400 per 18 vials compared to \$9,695 for 3,500U 4F-PCC

Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services has granted cases involving Andexxa ® additional funding

REAL-LIFE ANDEXANET USE

Coagulation Factor Xa (Recombinant), Inactivated-Zhzo (Andexanet Alfa) Hemostatic Outcomes and Thrombotic Event Incidence at an Academic Medical Center

- Retrospective cohort study including ALL patients receiving andexanet alfa
- 13 patients included in analysis

REAL-LIFE ANDEXANET USE

77% of the patients had excellent or good hemostasis at 12 hours after the infusion

Intracranial bleeding 50%

31% of patients experienced thrombotic events

15% of patients died at 30 days

DOAC GUIDELINE SUMMARY

ACC 2017

- Administer 4F-PCC 50 ununits/kg
- If unavailable, consider aPCC 50 units/kg

ASH 2018

- Panel suggests using **either** 4F-PCC or andexanet alfa

Anticoagulation Forum 2019

- Suggest treatment with andexanet alfa.
- **If not available, suggest 2000 units 4F-PCC**

ACC 2020

- Administer andexanet alfa
- **If unavailable, administer PCC or aPCC.**
- It is reasonable to dose 4F-PCC at fixed dose 2000 units

NON-SPECIFIC REVERSAL STRATEGY

4 factor prothrombin complex concentrates (4F-PCC)

Activated prothrombin complex concentrates (aPCC)



NON-SPECIFIC REVERSAL STRATEGY

Study Details	Drug	Population	Findings
Zhou et al. 2013	Rivaroxaban	Animal (rats)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">4F-PCC and aPCC prevented hematoma expansion in dose-dependent fashion
Zahir et al. RCT, 2015	Edoxaban	Healthy human volunteers	<ul style="list-style-type: none">4F-PCC dose-dependent effect on reversal of bleeding, with complete reversal seen at 50IU/kg
Dibu et al. Case series 2015	Rivaroxaban/ Apixaban	Intracranial hemorrhage (ICH)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Those receiving 50IU/kg aPCC had no ICH expansion or thrombotic complications

*IU/kg = international units per kilogram, RCT= randomized controlled trial

4F-PCC: UPRATE

Management of rivaroxaban- or apixaban-associated major bleeding with prothrombin complex concentrates: a cohort study

Ammar Majeed,¹⁻⁴ Anna Ågren,^{1,3} Margareta Holmström,^{1,3} Maria Bruzelius,^{1,3} Roza Chaireti,^{3,5,6} Jacob Odeberg,^{1,3,7} Eva-Lotta Hempel,^{1,3} Maria Magnusson,^{6,8,9} Tony Frisk,¹⁰ and Sam Schulman^{11,12}

- Prospective cohort study
- Predefined 4F-PCC dosing protocol
 - <65kg: 1500 units
 - \geq 65kg: 2000 units

Characteristic		Apixaban (n=39)	Rivaroxaban (n=45)	Total (n=84)
Age, median		77 (70-81)	73 (68-84)	75 (70-83)
Weight, kg		75 (67-89)	75 (65-80)	75 (66-88)
Indication (%)				
	Atrial fibrillation (AF)	34 (87.2)	29 (64.4)	63 (75.0)
	Venous thromboembolism (VTE)	2 (5.1)	1 (2.2)	3 (3.6)
	AF & VTE	3 (7.7)	15(33.3)	18 (21.4)
Bleeding location (%)				
	Intracranial	29 (74.4)	30 (66.7)	59 (70.2)
	Gastrointestinal	5 (12.8)	8 (17.8)	13 (15.5)
	Other	5 (12.8)	7 (15.6)	12 (14.3)



4F-PCC: UPRATE

69.1% of the patients had “effective” hemostasis based on ISTH criteria

2.4% of patients experienced thrombotic events

32% of patients died at 30 days

*ISTH= International Society on Thrombosis and Haemostasis

4F-PCC: SCHULMAN

Prothrombin Complex Concentrate for Major Bleeding on Factor Xa Inhibitors: A Prospective Cohort Study

- 2,000 unit 4F-PCC dose
- 66 patients included, with intracranial hemorrhage as primary type of bleed



4F-PCC: SCHULMAN

76% of the patients had excellent or good hemostasis at 12 hours after the infusion

8% of patients experienced thrombotic events

14% of patients died at 30 days

4F-PCC: ICH POPULATION

Circulation

ORIGINAL RESEARCH ARTICLE

Factor Xa Inhibitor-Related Intracranial Hemorrhage

Results From a Multicenter, Observational Cohort Receiving Prothrombin Complex Concentrates

- Multi-center, retrospective, observational cohort study of patients with DOAC-related ICH
- 433 patients evaluated for hemostatic efficacy



Characteristic	Safety Population (n=663)
Age, >75 years (%)	391 (59)
Body-mass index	28.1 ± 6.5
Estimated creatinine clearance <30mL/min (%)	52 (7.8)
Hospital presentation to drug administration, hours	2.6 (1.5-4.3)
Indication	
Atrial fibrillation (AF)	521 (78.6)
Venous thromboembolism (VTE)	102 (15.4)
Medical History (%)	
Myocardial infarction	62 (9.4)
Stroke	151 (22.8)
Diabetes mellitus	183 (27.6)

Characteristic		Safety Population (n=663)	ANNEXA-4
Age, >75 years (%)		391 (59)	-
Body-mass index		28.1± 6.5	27.0± 5.9
Estimated creatinine clearance <30mL/min (%)		52 (7.8)	33 (9)
Hospital presentation to drug administration, hours		2.6	4.6
Indication			
	Atrial fibrillation (AF)	521 (78.6)	280 (80)
	Venous thromboembolism (VTE)	102 (15.4)	61 (17)
Medical History (%)			
	Myocardial infarction	62 (9.4)	48 (14)
	Stroke	151 (22.8)	69 (20)
	Diabetes mellitus	183 (27.6)	23 (34)



RESULTS

81.8% of the patients had excellent or good hemostasis at 12 hours after the infusion

3.8% of patients experienced thrombotic events

12.2% of patients died at 30 days



REVERSAL STRATEGY SUMMARY

Study	N	Age	ICH (%)	Effectiveness	VTE 30 days	Mortality 30 days
ANNEXA-4	254	77	67%	82%	10%	14%
Stevens	13	69	46%	77%	31%	15%
UPRATE	84	75	70%	73%	4%	32%
Shulman	66	77	55%	76%	8%	14%
Jones	433	-	100%	81.8%	3.8%	12%



DOAC GUIDELINE SUMMARY

ACC 2017

- Administer 4F-PCC 50 ununits/kg
- If unavailable, consider aPCC 50 units/kg

ASH 2018

- Panel suggests using either 4F-PCC or andexanet alfa

Anticoagulation Forum 2019

- Suggest treatment with andexanet alfa.
- If not available, suggest **2000 units 4F-PCC**

ACC 2020

- Administer andexanet alfa
- If unavailable, administer PCC or aPCC.
- It is **reasonable to dose 4F-PCC at fixed dose 2000 units**

PCC DOSING

“On the basis of limited data, it is **reasonable to administer 4F-PCC at a fixed dose of 2,000 units** for severe or life-threatening bleeding” - ACC 2020

“We **prefer a fixed dose of 2000 units** because it has been studied in patients with FXa inhibitor-associated bleeding” and offers “greater simplicity for the ordering provider and pharmacy and reduced cost” – Anticoagulation Forum 2019

PCC DOSING

Comparison of Low- Versus High-Dose Four-Factor Prothrombin Complex Concentrate (4F-PCC) for Factor Xa Inhibitor-Associated Bleeding: A Retrospective Study

- Retrospective cohort study comparing hemostasis between patients receiving low (20-34 units/kg) versus high-dose (35-55 units/kg) 4F-PCC for DOAC reversal
- 99 patients evaluated for efficacy



PCC DOSING

Outcomes	20-34 U/kg (n = 57)	35 - 55 U/kg (n = 42)	P value
Hemostatic success	43 (75.4%)	33 (78.6)	0.72
Secondary outcomes			
Survival	46 (80.7%)	27 (64.3%)	0.07
Length of stay, days	11.3 ± 14.7	12.5 ± 8.7	0.71
Post reversal thrombosis	3 (5.3%)	1 (2.4%)	0.64

AUDIENCE RESPONSE QUESTION

RW is a 62 YOM admitted with acute onset of right-sided weakness and difficulty speaking. A head CT scan reveals right parietal intracerebral hemorrhage. The patient is taking edoxaban for stroke prophylaxis.

- Last dose 10 hours ago
- Weight 85 kg

Based on the ACC 2020 guidelines, which of the following is MOST appropriate for RM?

1. Andexanet alfa 400mg bolus + 480mg @ 4mg/min
2. IV vitamin K 10mg
3. 4F-PCC 2000 units
4. 4F-PCC 4250 units

MOVING FORWARD

Head to head
trials

Thrombotic
risks

Hybrid
strategies

New
anticoagulants

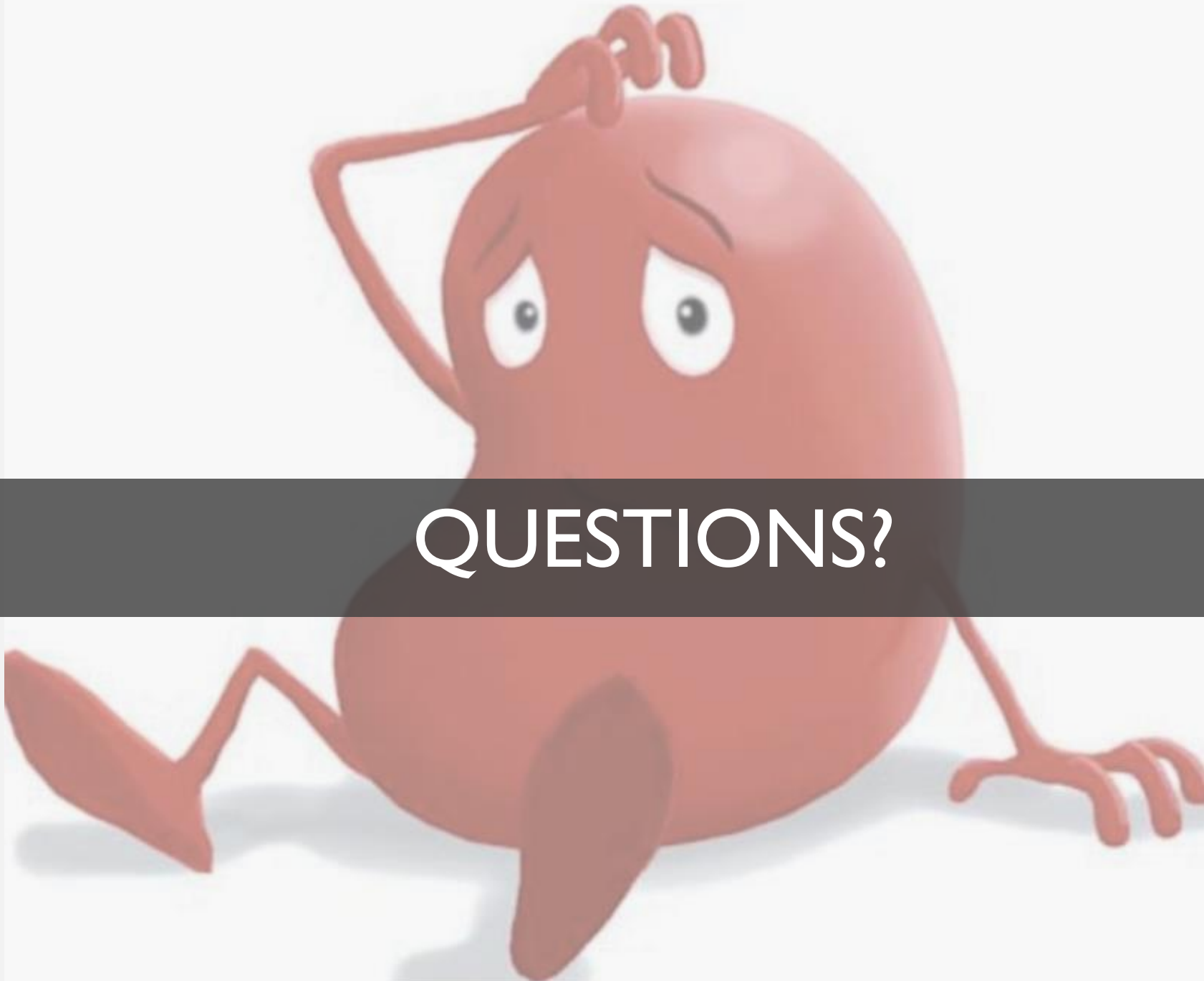
New reversal
agents

Ethical
considerations

Conclusions

CONCLUSIONS

- Atrial fibrillation remains the most common indication for oral anticoagulation, and prescribing rates of direct oral anticoagulants continues to climb.
- Assessing bleeding severity to determine appropriate of reversal is essential.
- Clinical pharmacists are vital to reversal agent appropriateness, selection, dosing, monitoring as well as medical profile review.
- Cost-effectiveness analysis and head to head analysis with our alternative strategies will strengthen our approach to reversal in this patient population.



QUESTIONS?

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