

INFORMATION FOR HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS

- DOACs increase the risk of bleeding and should be stopped if bleeding occurs.
- Aim to stop DOACs before surgical and invasive procedures – liaise with prescriber.
- Standard clotting tests do not accurately reflect the level of anticoagulation.
- Contact haematology if bleeding is life threatening.

Recommended follow-up

Blood sampling:

- Routine monitoring of anticoagulation level is not required.
- Yearly (at least) Hb and renal function
- If $\text{CrCl} \leq 60\text{ml/min}$, $>75\text{y}$, or frail: 6 monthly renal function.
- Perform additional tests if intercurrent condition that may have impact.

Check for adherence and side effects at each visit

Adapted by Nottinghamshire health community, July 16



ALERT CARD

DIRECT ORAL ANTICOAGULANT (DOAC)

This card should be carried at all times and shown to every healthcare professional prior to treatment

Patient Name

Hospital (and ID Number)

DOB

NHS Number

Oral anticoagulant

Dosage, timing, with or without food

Treatment Indication

Date treatment started

INFORMATION FOR PATIENTS

- You have been prescribed a Direct Oral Anticoagulant (DOAC) to prevent blood clots.
- Your DOAC must be taken exactly as prescribed. No drug means no protection!
- You must not stop taking your DOAC without talking to your doctor as you are at risk of suffering from a stroke or blood clot.
- All anticoagulants increase the risk of bleeding and you should report any bleeding symptoms to your doctor.
- Inform your pharmacist, dentist, surgeon or doctor before any procedures or new drug prescription.
- Do not take over the counter medicine without checking with health professionals.

If you miss a dose take it as soon as you remember and check your medicine information leaflet for instructions

EMERGENCY INFORMATION

Signs and symptoms of bleeding include:

- Tar-coloured stools, blood in urine, nose-bleed, bleeding of gums or from cuts that take a long time to stop.
- Bruising or bleeding under the skin with swelling or discomfort.
- Headache, dizziness, tiredness, paleness or weakness.
- Coughing up blood or vomiting blood or material that looks like coffee grounds.
- Loss of consciousness or drowsiness.

What should I do next?

- In the event of a bleeding event which does not stop on its own **immediately seek medical attention** and do not take any more doses until this has been reviewed.

Name and contact number of prescriber:

GP details if different: