



ST. JAMES'S  
HOSPITAL



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# NOVEL ORAL ANTICOAGULANT THERAPY

**An audit from 6 Acute Hospitals**

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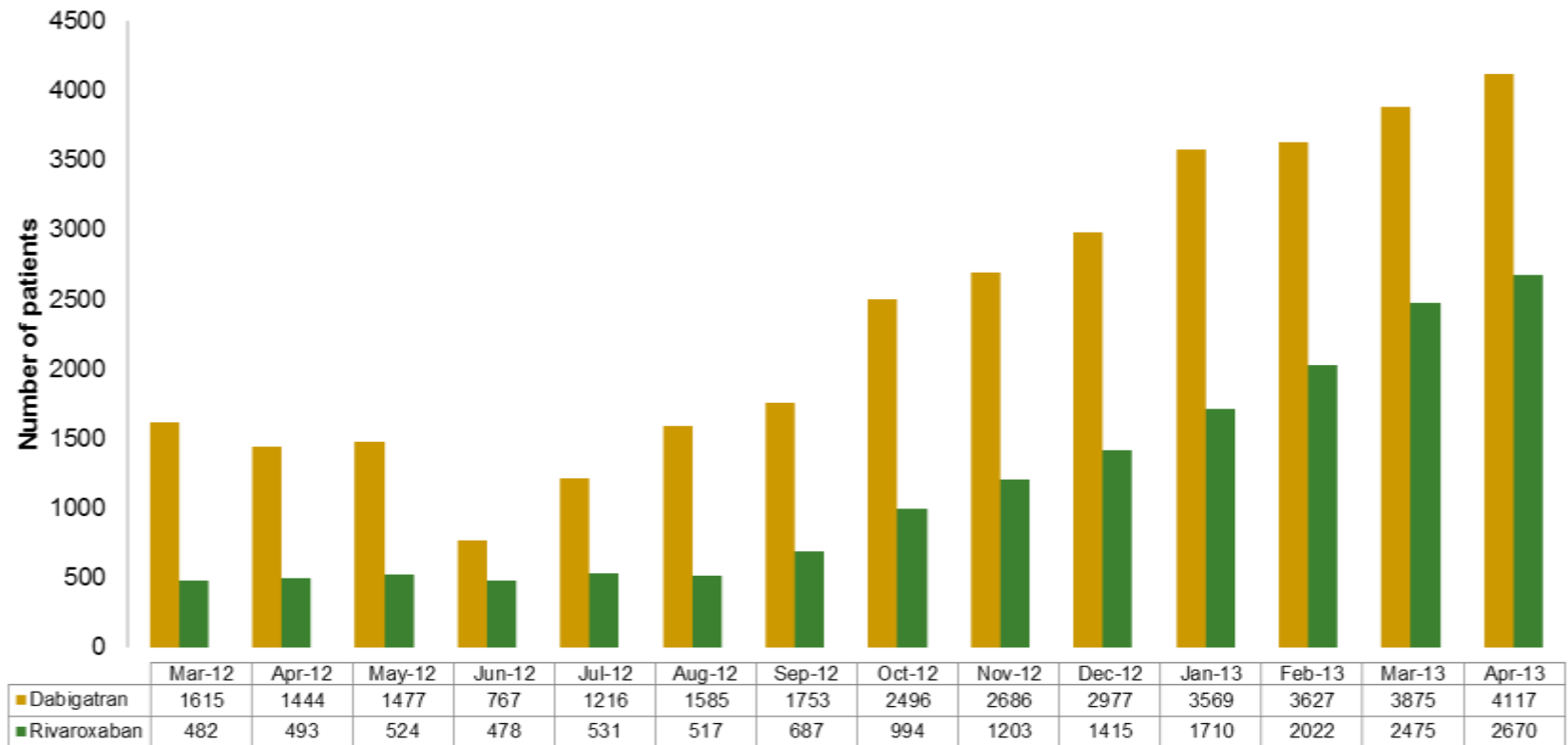
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# Balancing the Risks

- Anticoagulation therapy is a rapidly changing area of practice, driven by the availability of the novel oral anticoagulants (NOACs).
  - Rivaroxaban, dabigatran and apixaban are licensed for indications including stroke prophylaxis in atrial fibrillation patients and the treatment of acute venous thrombosis.
  - Anticoagulants are one of the classes of medicines that most frequently cause preventable harm and admission to hospital.
  - The published literature supports their safety and efficacy versus warfarin therapy in specific clinical incidences.
  - However, outside of the clinical trial setting, experience with these agents is limited.
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# NOAC usage data

PCRS data for the number of patients on NOAC therapy



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# Aim and Objectives

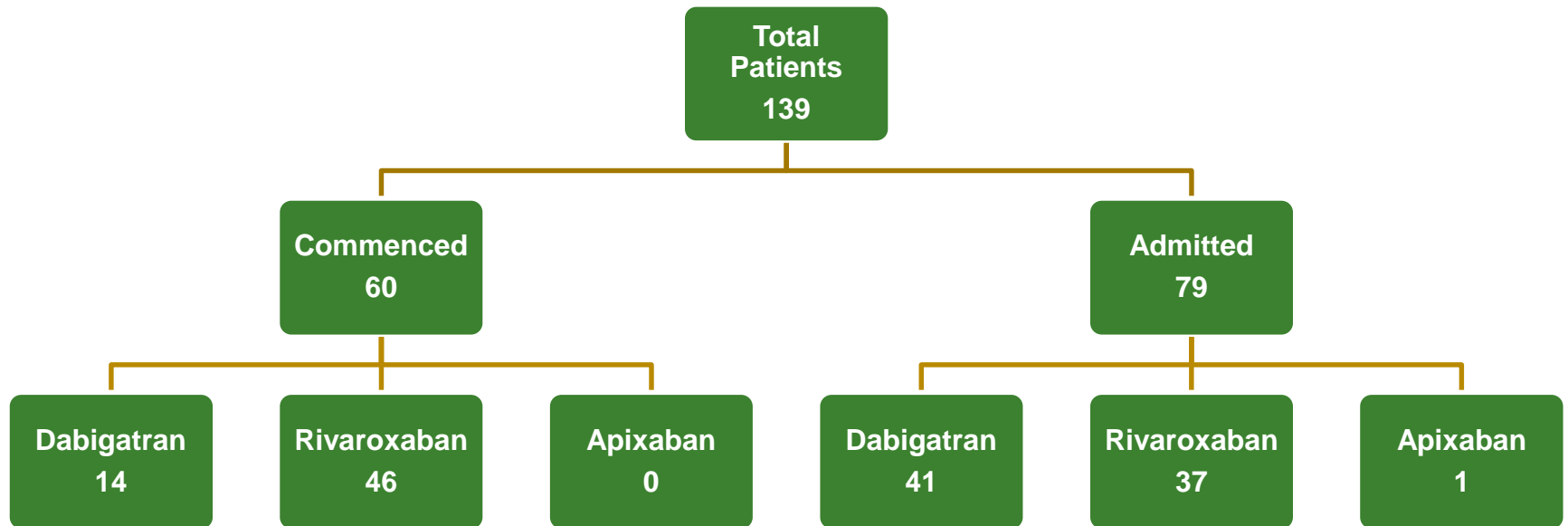
## Aim

- ❑ Develop a profile of the inpatient use of the novel oral anticoagulants (NOAC)
- ❑ To contribute towards increasing knowledge and insight into the new oral anticoagulant agents; their benefits and potential risks in a real-world setting.

## Objectives

- ❑ Description of demographics
  - ❑ Assess safety and tolerability of NOAC therapy
  - Strict protocol driven study to ensure consistency
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# Pooled Study Results



# Demographic data

| Drug                                | Rivaroxaban      | Apixaban              | Dabigatran<br>110mg BD | Dabigatran<br>150mg BD | Study<br>cohort<br>n=139 |
|-------------------------------------|------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>Trial</b>                        | <b>ROCKET AF</b> | <b>ARISTOT<br/>LE</b> | <b>RE-LY</b>           | <b>RE-LY</b>           |                          |
| <b>Mean Age (years)</b>             | <b>73</b>        | <b>70</b>             | <b>71.4</b>            | <b>71.5</b>            | <b>76.4</b>              |
| <b>Women (%)</b>                    | <b>39.7</b>      | <b>35.5</b>           | <b>35.7</b>            | <b>36.8</b>            | <b>48.2</b>              |
| <b>Diabetes (%)</b>                 | <b>40.4</b>      | <b>25.0</b>           | <b>23.4</b>            | <b>23.1</b>            | <b>20%</b>               |
| <b>Previous Stroke /TIA<br/>(%)</b> | <b>54.9</b>      | <b>19.2</b>           | <b>19.9</b>            | <b>20.3</b>            | <b>30.9%</b>             |
| <b>Mean CHADS2 Score</b>            | <b>3.5</b>       | <b>2.1</b>            | <b>2.1</b>             |                        | <b>2.7</b>               |
| <b>CHADS2 Score &gt;1 (%)</b>       | <b>100</b>       | <b>66</b>             | <b>67.4</b>            | <b>67.8</b>            | <b>76.8%</b>             |
| <b>Co-usage Aspirin (%)</b>         | <b>36.3</b>      | <b>33.2</b>           | <b>21.1</b>            | <b>19.6</b>            | <b>27%</b>               |

- CVA most common presenting complaint (19%,n=27)
- 8 patients admitted with CVA were already on NOAC therapy (5.75%)
- 2 patients admitted for a DVT were already on NOAC therapy
- 52% patients had between 3 to 5 co-morbidities

# Co-morbidity data

| <b>Cardiovascular/ Thromboembolic Disease</b> | <b>Pooled % (n=139)</b> |
|---|-------------------------|
| Hypertension                                  | 55.4% (77)              |
| Atrial Fibrillation                           | 84.2 % (117)            |
| Myocardial Infarction                         | 12.9% (18)              |
| Congestive Heart Failure                      | 30.2% (42)              |
| Previous DVT*                                 | 10.1% (14)              |
| Previous PE*                                  | 7.2% (10)               |
| CVA Ischemic/TIA*                             | 29.5% (41)              |
| CVA Haemorrhagic*                             | 1.4% (2)                |
| Vascular Disease                              | 18% (25)                |
| Hyperlipidemia                                | 20.9% (29)              |
| Other CVD                                     | 15.1% (21)              |

# Suitability of warfarin

- 43.9 % (n=61) of patients had a documented history of warfarin therapy.
- Previous warfarin therapy could not be established in 19.4% (n=27) due to incomplete medical notes.
- A specific reason or combination of reasons, for initiating a NOAC over warfarin was documented in 38.8% (n= 54) of cases.
- The most frequent reasons documented included:
  - Unable to attend warfarin clinic (n=13)
  - Poor cognition (n=10)
  - INR frequently out of range (n=8)
  - Risk of non-adherence (n=8)



# Patient Demographics for Dabigatran (n=55)

| Dose                        | 75mg BD (n=3) | 110mg BD (n=42) | 150mg BD (10) |
|-----------------------------|---------------|-----------------|---------------|
| Male                        | 100%          | 47.6% (20)      | 60% (6)       |
| Female                      |               | 52.4% (22)      | 40% (4)       |
| Mean age                    | 85.6          | 80.5            | 67.4          |
| <u>Indication</u>           |               |                 |               |
| Atrial fibrillation         | 100% (3)      | 85.7% (36)      | 100% (10)     |
| other                       |               | 14.4% (6)       |               |
| <u>Renal profile (CrCl)</u> |               |                 |               |
| Normal                      |               | 7.1% (3)        | 30% (3)       |
| Mild                        | 33.3% (1)     | 33.3% (14)      | 50% (5)       |
| Moderate                    | 66.6% (2)     | 54.8% (23)      | 20% (1)       |
| Severe                      |               | 4.7% (2)        | 10% (1)       |

# Patient Demographics for Rivaroxaban (n=83)

| Dose                               | 10mg daily | 15mg daily | 20mg Daily | 15mg BD   |
|------------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|-----------|
|                                    | n=1        | n=30       | n=44       | n=8       |
| Male                               | 100%       | 45.7% (14) | 52.3% (23) | 62.5%(5)  |
| Female                             |            | 54.3% (16) | 47.7% (21) | 37.5% (3) |
| Mean age, years                    | 82         | 81.8       | 71.2       | 75.6      |
| <b><u>Indication</u></b>           |            |            |            |           |
| A fibrillation                     |            | 83.3% (25) | 93.2% (42) |           |
| VTE                                |            | 13.3% (4)  | 4.5% (2)   | 75% (6)   |
| unknown                            | 100% (1)   | 3.3% (1)   |            | (2)       |
| <b><u>Renal Profile (CrCl)</u></b> |            |            |            |           |
| Normal                             |            | 10% (3)    | 43.2% (19) | 25% (2)   |
| Mild                               | 100% (1)   | 26.7% (8)  | 38.6% (17) | 25% (2)   |
| Moderate                           |            | 53.3% (16) | 18.2% (8)  | 50% (4)   |
| Severe                             |            | 10% (3)    |            |           |

# Concomitant medications for Patients on NOAC therapy

| Concomitant Medications                 | Number of patients (n=139) |
|---|----------------------------|
| <b>CYP3A4/p-glycoprotein inducers</b>   | <b>3 (2.2%)</b>            |
| Carbamazepine                           | 2                          |
| Phenytoin                               | 1                          |
| <b>CYP3A4/p-glycoprotein inhibitors</b> | <b>28 (20.1%)</b>          |
| Amiodarone                              | 18                         |
| Clarithromycin                          | 5                          |
| Diltiazem                               | 1                          |
| Dronedarone                             | 2                          |
| Fidaxomicin                             | 1                          |
| Fluconazole                             | 1                          |
| Verapamil                               | 1                          |
| <b>NSAIDs</b>                           | <b>10</b>                  |
| Aspirin                                 | <b>37 (26.6%)</b>          |
| Clopidogrel                             | 6                          |
| <b>SSRI/SNRI</b>                        | <b>23</b>                  |
| <b>Proton Pump Inhibitor</b>            | <b>72</b>                  |

## CHADS<sub>2</sub> Score and Stroke Risk in AF Patients

|                | Points | CHADS <sub>2</sub> score | 1-year stroke rate |
|----------------|--------|--------------------------|--------------------|
| Congestive HF  | 1      | 6                        | 13.7%              |
| Hypertension   | 1      | 5                        | 12.3%              |
| Age > 75 years | 1      | 4                        | 10.9%              |
| Diabetes       | 1      | 3                        | 8.6%               |
| Stroke         | 2      | 2                        | 4.5%               |
|                |        | 1                        | 2.2%               |
|                |        | 0                        | 0.8%               |

**Sum** →

# Clinical Prediction Scores

|              | Mean Score | Max Score | Min. Score | Most frequent score |
|--------------|------------|-----------|------------|---------------------|
| CHADS2       | 2.7        | 6         | 0          | 2                   |
| CHA2DS2-VASc | 4.3        | 8         | 0          | 4                   |
| HAS-BLED     | 2.2        | 5         | 0          | 2                   |

- 28% of study population had HAS-BLED score  $\geq 3$
- 72% CHADS2 score  $\geq 2$
- 86% CHA2DS2-VASc  $\geq 2$
- CHADS2 score documented for 13.3% of atrial fibrillation patients.
- HAS-BLED scores recorded for 2.3% of Atrial fibrillation patients.

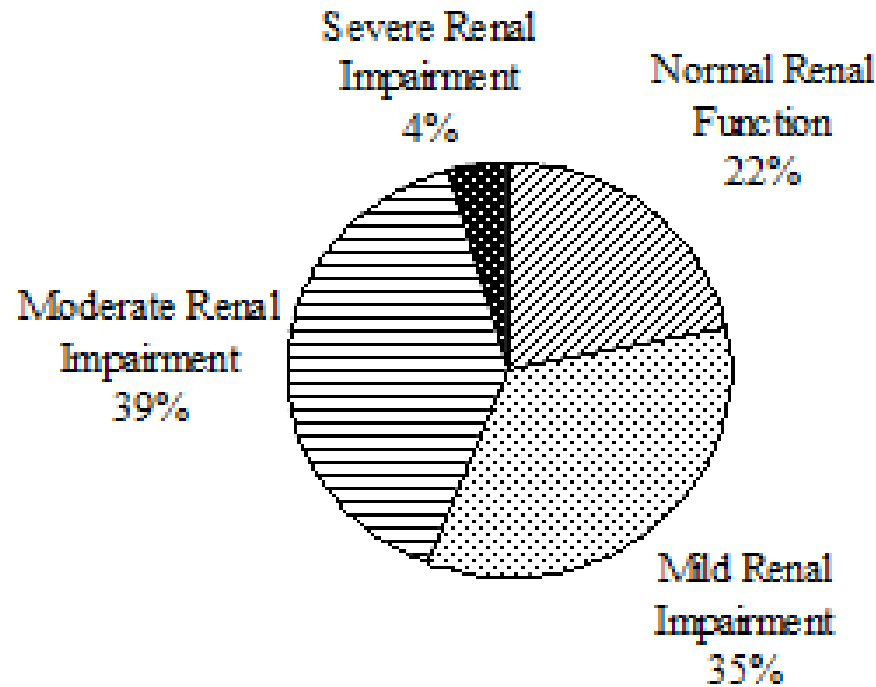
# Change in NOAC Therapy during Admission

| Changes to NOAC therapy             | Number of patients (n=139) | % of patients |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------|
| Temporary “holding” of NOAC therapy | 26                         | 18.7%         |
| Discontinuation of NOAC             | 17                         | 12%           |
| Dose change                         | 10                         | 7.1%          |
| Surgery                             | 13                         | 9.3%          |
| Actual/suspected bleed              | 11                         | 8%            |
| Incorrect dose                      | 7                          | 5%            |
| Worsening renal function            | 6                          | 4.3%          |
| Switched to a different NOAC        | 3                          | 2.2%          |
| Falls Risk                          | 3                          | 2.2%          |
| Poor compliance                     | 2                          | 1.4%          |
| Deranged LFTs                       | 3                          | 2.2%          |
| Drug interaction                    | 1                          | 0.7%          |

# Documented Risk factors in study group potentially predisposing to adverse events

| Medical condition       | Number of patients (n=139) | % of patients |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|---------------|
| Cognitive impairment    | 34                         | 24.4%         |
| Reduced mobility        | 31                         | 22.3%         |
| History of falls        | 30                         | 21.5%         |
| GI conditions           | 30                         | 21.5%         |
| Past history of bleed   | 11                         | 7.9%          |
| Chronic renal disease   | 10                         | 7.2%          |
| Active cancer           | 7                          | 5%            |
| Coagulation disorders   | 2                          | 1.4%          |
| Alcoholic liver disease | 2                          | 1.4%          |

# Classification of Renal Impairment in the Pooled Study Population (n=139)





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# Rivaroxaban-Analysis of Renal dosing parameters

- A discrepancy was identified during this study between the:
    - a) *Estimated Glomerular Filtration Rate (eGFR) (as per BNF)*
    - b) *Cockcroft Gault Equation (as per Summary of Product Characteristics (SPC)) methods for estimating renal dose adjustments.*
  - Potential for inconsistency and inaccurate dosing in renal patients; a sub-group that is already proven to be highly vulnerable to NOAC adverse events.
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# Rivaroxaban- Analysis of Renal dosing

- N=19 (22% of rivaroxaban cohort, n=83) dose discrepancies occurred between the eGFR based guidance and the CrCl guidance.
- For 17 patients the CrCL result in line with the SPC recommended a reduced dose of rivaroxaban 15mg daily, while eGFR result indicated 20mg daily as per BNF.
- For 2 patients the SPC indicated a 20mg daily dose while the eGFR as per BNF recommended the reduced 15mg daily dose.
- In 7% (n=6/83) of cases the 20mg daily dose prescribed should have been adjusted to 15mg daily.
- One patient experienced an intracerebral bleed on rivaroxaban therapy 20mg once daily.  
Cockroft Gault- CrCl 47ml/min = recommended dose 15mg daily  
eGFR - 60ml/min = recommended dose 20mg daily

# Classification of Bleed

|   | Dabigatran<br>(n=55) | Rivaroxaban<br>(n=83)                    | Apixaban<br>(n=1) |
|---|----------------------|--|-------------------|
| <b>NOAC Bleed (%)</b>                               | <b>5 (9%)</b>        | <b>5 (6%)</b>                            | <b>1(100%)</b>    |
| <b>Classification of bleed</b>                      |                      |  |                   |
| <b>Mild (%)</b>                                     | <b>2 (3.6%)</b>      | <b>2 (2.4%)</b>                          | <b>0</b>          |
| <b>Major (%)</b>                                    | <b>3 (5.4%)</b>      | <b>2 (2.4%)</b>                          | <b>1</b>          |
| <b>Life threatening (%)</b>                         | <b>0</b>             | <b>1 (1.2 %)</b><br><b>INTRACEREBRAL</b> | <b>0</b>          |
| <b>Patient Type</b>                                 |                      |  |                   |
| <b>Admitted with bleed while on NOAC</b>            | <b>4</b>             | <b>4</b>                                 | <b>1</b>          |
| <b>Commenced on NOAC and subsequently had bleed</b> | <b>1</b>             | <b>1</b>                                 | <b>0</b>          |
| <b>Bleed Location</b>                               |                      |  |                   |
| <b>Unknown source</b>                               | <b>1</b>             | <b>0</b>                                 | <b>0</b>          |
| <b>Gastrointestinal</b>                             | <b>2</b>             | <b>2</b>                                 | <b>1</b>          |
| <b>Genitourinary</b>                                | <b>1</b>             | <b>1</b>                                 | <b>0</b>          |
| <b>Intracerebral</b>                                | <b>0</b>             | <b>1</b>                                 | <b>0</b>          |
| <b>Nasal</b>  | <b>1</b>             | <b>1</b>                                 | <b>0</b>          |

# Dabigatran-analysis of bleeding

| Characteristic  | Dabigatran (n=5) |
|---|------------------|
| <b>NOAC Indication</b>                                |                  |
| A.fib   | 5                |
| Dose- 110mg BD  | 5                |
| <b>Creatinine clearance</b>                           |                  |
| <30 ml/min  | 0                |
| 30-49 ml/min  | 4                |
| 50-79 ml/min  | 1                |
| >80 ml/min  | 0                |
| <b>Body weight &lt;50kg</b>                           | 1                |
| <b>History of ulcerative gastrointestinal disease</b> | 2                |
| <b>Concomitant medicines</b>                          |                  |
| Prescribed CYP3A4 inducers                            | 0                |
| Prescribed CYP3A4 inhibitors                          | 0                |
| Prescribed NSAIDs                                     | 0                |
| Prescribed aspirin                                    | 3                |
| Prescribed clopidogrel                                | 2                |
| Prescribed SSRI/SNRI                                  | 1                |
| Prescribed PPI  | 3                |

# Rivaroxaban-analysis of bleeding

| Characteristic  | Rivaroxaban (n=5) |
|---|-------------------|
| <b>NOAC Indication</b>                                |                   |
| A.fib   | 5                 |
| Dose- 20mg daily                                      | 4                 |
| Dose- 15mg daily                                      | 1                 |
| <b>Creatinine clearance</b>                           |                   |
| <30 ml/min  | 0                 |
| 30-49 ml/min  | 1                 |
| 50-79 ml/min  | 3                 |
| >80 ml/min  | 1                 |
| <b>Body weight &lt;50kg</b>                           | 0                 |
| <b>History of ulcerative gastrointestinal disease</b> | 2                 |
| <b>Concomitant medicines</b>                          |                   |
| Prescribed CYP3A4 inducers                            | 0                 |
| Prescribed CYP3A4 inhibitors (Dronedarone)            | 1                 |
| Prescribed NSAIDs                                     | 0                 |
| Prescribed aspirin                                    | 0                 |
| Prescribed clopidogrel                                | 0                 |
| Prescribed SSRI/SNRI                                  | 0                 |
| Prescribed PPI  | 3                 |

# Analysis of bleeding events- coagulation parameters

## Dabigatran

## Rivaroxaban

| Dabigatran Patient (n=5) | INR        | APTT (seconds) | PT (seconds) | Rivaroxaban Patient (n=5) | INR        | APTT (seconds) | PT (seconds) |
|--------------------------|------------|----------------|--------------|---------------------------|------------|----------------|--------------|
| 1                        | 1.2        | 34.7           | 13.2         | 1                         | 1.3        | 29.5           | 15.3         |
| 2                        | 1.2        | 31             | 12.4         | 2                         | 1.4        | 36             | 14.7         |
| 3                        | 3.7        | 96             | 40           | 3                         | 1.5        | 37.7           | 16.6         |
| 4                        | 1.6        | 67             | 18.4         | 4                         | 1.6        | 39             | 19.5         |
| 5                        | 1.6        | 63             | 19.7         | 5                         | 1.2        | 33             | 16           |
| Mean                     | 1.7 ± 0.93 | 58.3 ± 23.75   | 20.7 ± 10.04 | Mean                      | 1.4 ± 0.14 | 35 ± 3.42      | 16.4 ± 1.67  |

# Bleeding events- Comparison with clinical trial data

|                    | Study population | NOAC meta-analysis | VKA meta-analysis |
|--------------------|------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Major bleeding     | 4.31%            | 4.9%               | 5.54%             |
| Intracranial bleed | 0.72%            | 0.59%              | 1.3%              |

*Dentali et al. Efficacy and safety of the Novel oral anticoagulants in Atrial Fibrillation. Circulation 2012, 126(20): 2381-2391.*

- Another recent meta-analysis determined that patients receiving NOAC treatment have a similar risk profile to those receiving warfarin (RR 0.88, 95% CI 0.71-1.09). ([Miller et al., 2012](#))
- The results of FDA (Feb 2012) and European Medicines Agency assessment (May 2012) indicate that bleeding rates associated with new use of dabigatran does not appear to be higher than bleeding rates associated with new use of warfarin, which is consistent with the RE-LY trial.

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# Summary of Study findings

- 139 patients were audited
  - 5.75% admitted with a stroke on NOAC therapy
  - 1.4% suffered a DVT while on NOAC therapy
  - Renal dosing discrepancies
  - Discontinuation of therapy (12 %)
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# Bleeding outcomes

- All patients (n=11) > 65 years, female 63.6%
  - Moderate renal impairment in 45.4%
  - Higher mean CHADS2 and HAS-BLED scores than those without bleeding complications consistent with previous observations
  - Equal prevalence between dabigatran and rivaroxaban (n=5 for both)
  - Major bleeding was the most frequently encountered bleed category (45.4%)
-