

Βασικές αρχές διαχείρισης συννοσηροτήτων σε  
ασθενείς με χρόνια φλεγμονώδη νοσήματα  
**Αντιθρομβωτική αγωγή**

Basic principles of antithrombotic therapy in patients  
with chronic inflammatory diseases

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Conflicts of interest: (-)

# Indications of anticoagulation treatment

1. **AF**
2. **Deep vein thrombosis (DVT)**
3. Pulmonary embolism
4. Mechanical valves
5. Antiphospholipid syndrome

# Available anticoagulants

## **Direct oral anticoagulants (DOACs)**

Vitamin K antagonists (VKAs)

Heparins

Fondaparinux

**GLOBAL PREVALENCE OF AF**  
(globally, 43.6 million individuals had prevalent AF/AFL in 2016)

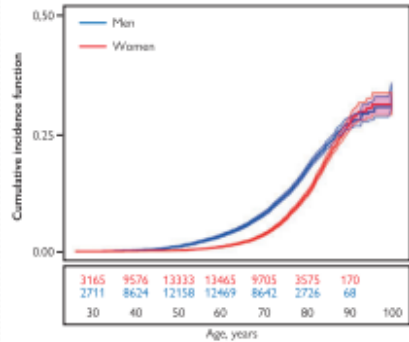


**LIFETIME RISK for AF**  
1 in 3 individuals

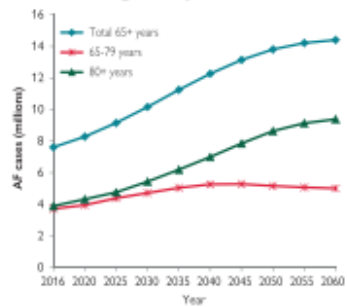


of European ancestry  
at index age of 55 years  
37.0% (34.3% to 39.6%)

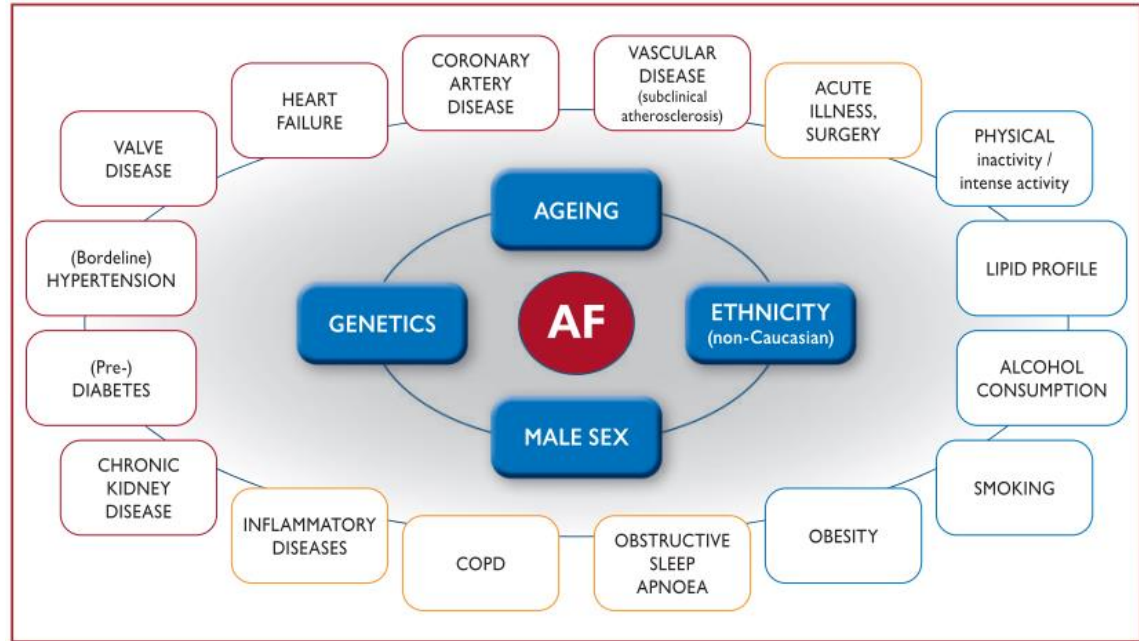
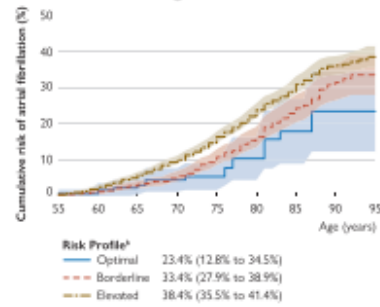
**AF is more common in males**  
Cumulative incidence curves and 95% CIs  
for AF in women and men with death as a competing risk










**Projected increase in AF prevalence among elderly in EU 2016-2060**

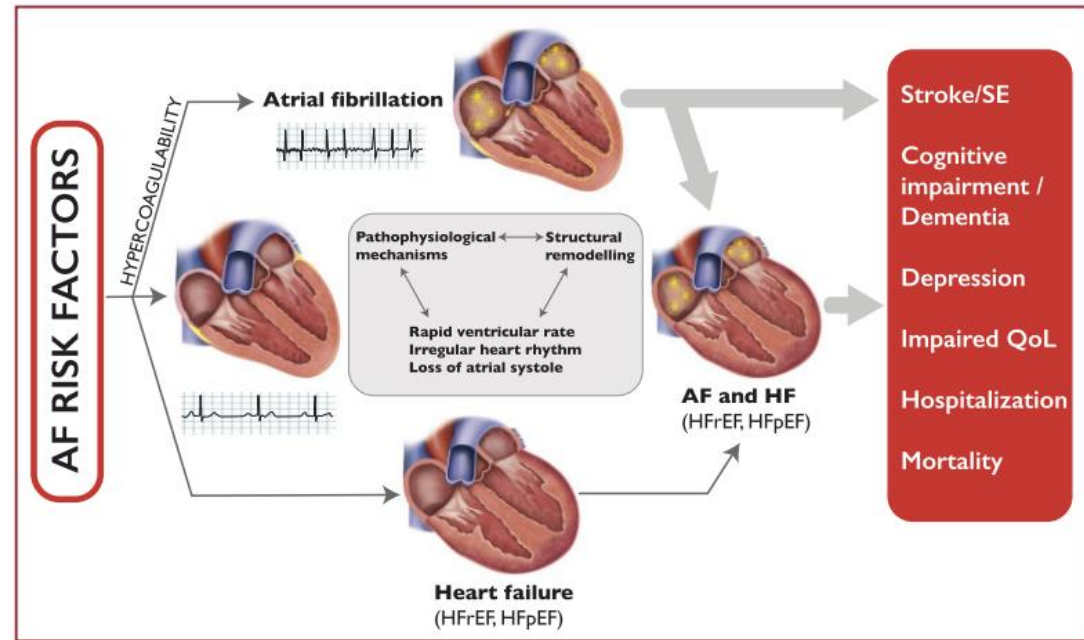


**Lifetime risk of AF increases with increasing risk factor burden<sup>a</sup>**



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AF-Related Outcome	Frequency in AF	Mechanism(s)
Death 	1.5 - 3.5 fold increase	Excess mortality related to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• HF, comorbidities</li> <li>• Stroke</li> </ul>
Stroke 	20-30% of all ischaemic strokes, 10% of cryptogenic strokes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cardioembolic, or</li> <li>• Related to comorbid vascular atheroma</li> </ul>
LV dysfunction / Heart failure 	In 20-30% of AF patients	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Excessive ventricular rate</li> <li>• Irregular ventricular contractions</li> <li>• A primary underlying cause of AF</li> </ul>
Cognitive decline / Vascular dementia 	HR 1.4 / 1.6 (irrespective of stroke history)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brain white matter lesions, inflammation,</li> <li>• Hypoperfusion,</li> <li>• Micro-embolism</li> </ul>
Depression 	Depression in 16-20% (even suicidal ideation)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Severe symptoms and decreased QoL</li> <li>• Drug side effects</li> </ul>
Impaired quality of life 	>60% of patients	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Related to AF burden, comorbidities, psychological functioning and medication</li> <li>• Distressed personality type</li> </ul>
Hospitalizations 	10-40% annual hospitalization rate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AF management, related to HF, MI or AF related symptoms</li> <li>• Treatment-associated complications</li> </ul>





European Society  
of Cardiology

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**ESC GUIDELINES**

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# **2024 ESC Guidelines for the management of atrial fibrillation developed in collaboration with the European Association for Cardio-Thoracic Surgery (EACTS)**

# CHADS<sub>2</sub>, CHA<sub>2</sub>DS<sub>2</sub>-VASc and CHA<sub>2</sub>DS<sub>2</sub>-VA score

## CHADS<sub>2</sub> -> CHA<sub>2</sub>DS<sub>2</sub>VASc

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

From ESC AF Guidelines  
<http://escardio.org/guidelines-surveys/esc-guidelines/GuidelinesDocuments/guidelines-afib-FT.pdf>

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

## CHA<sub>2</sub>DS<sub>2</sub>-VA

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



**Recommendation Table 6 — Recommendations to assess and manage thromboembolic risk in AF (see also Evidence Table 6)**

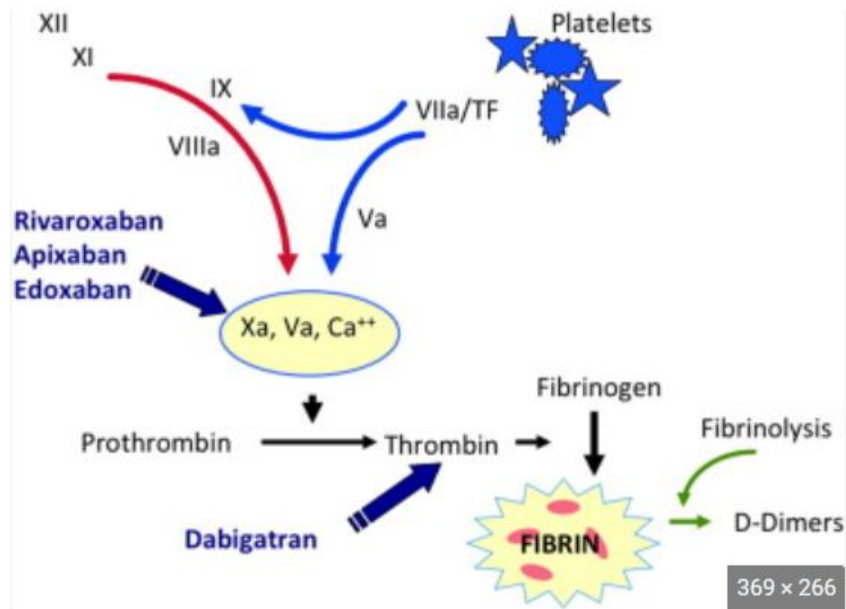
Recommendations	Class <sup>a</sup>	Level <sup>b</sup>
Oral anticoagulation is recommended in patients with clinical AF at elevated thromboembolic risk to prevent ischaemic stroke and thromboembolism. <sup>239,240</sup>	I	A
A CHA <sub>2</sub> DS <sub>2</sub> -VA score of 2 or more is recommended as an indicator of elevated thromboembolic risk for decisions on initiating oral anticoagulation.	I	C
Oral anticoagulation is recommended in all patients with AF and hypertrophic cardiomyopathy or cardiac amyloidosis, regardless of CHA <sub>2</sub> DS <sub>2</sub> -VA score, to prevent ischaemic stroke and thromboembolism. <sup>270–276</sup>	I	B
Individualized reassessment of thromboembolic risk is recommended at periodic intervals in patients with AF to ensure anticoagulation is started in appropriate patients. <sup>277–280</sup>	I	B

Antiplatelet therapy is not recommended as an alternative to anticoagulation in patients with AF to prevent ischaemic stroke and thromboembolism. <sup>242,283</sup>	III	A
Using the temporal pattern of clinical AF (paroxysmal, persistent, or permanent) is not recommended to determine the need for oral anticoagulation. <sup>284,285</sup>	III	B

Recommendations	Class <sup>a</sup>	Level <sup>b</sup>
Direct oral anticoagulants are recommended in preference to VKAs to prevent ischaemic stroke and thromboembolism, except in patients with mechanical heart valves or moderate-to-severe mitral stenosis. <sup>25–28,292–294</sup>	<b>I</b>	<b>A</b>
A target INR of 2.0–3.0 is recommended for patients with AF prescribed a VKA for stroke prevention to ensure safety and effectiveness. <sup>295–298</sup>	<b>I</b>	<b>B</b>
Switching to a DOAC is recommended for eligible patients that have failed to maintain an adequate time in therapeutic range on a VKA (TTR <70%) to prevent thromboembolism and intracranial haemorrhage. <sup>299–303</sup>	<b>I</b>	<b>B</b>

Recommendations	Class <sup>a</sup>	Level <sup>b</sup>
Maintaining VKA treatment rather than switching to a DOAC may be considered in patients aged $\geq 75$ years on clinically stable therapeutic VKA with polypharmacy to prevent excess bleeding risk. <sup>309</sup>	<b>IIb</b>	<b>B</b>

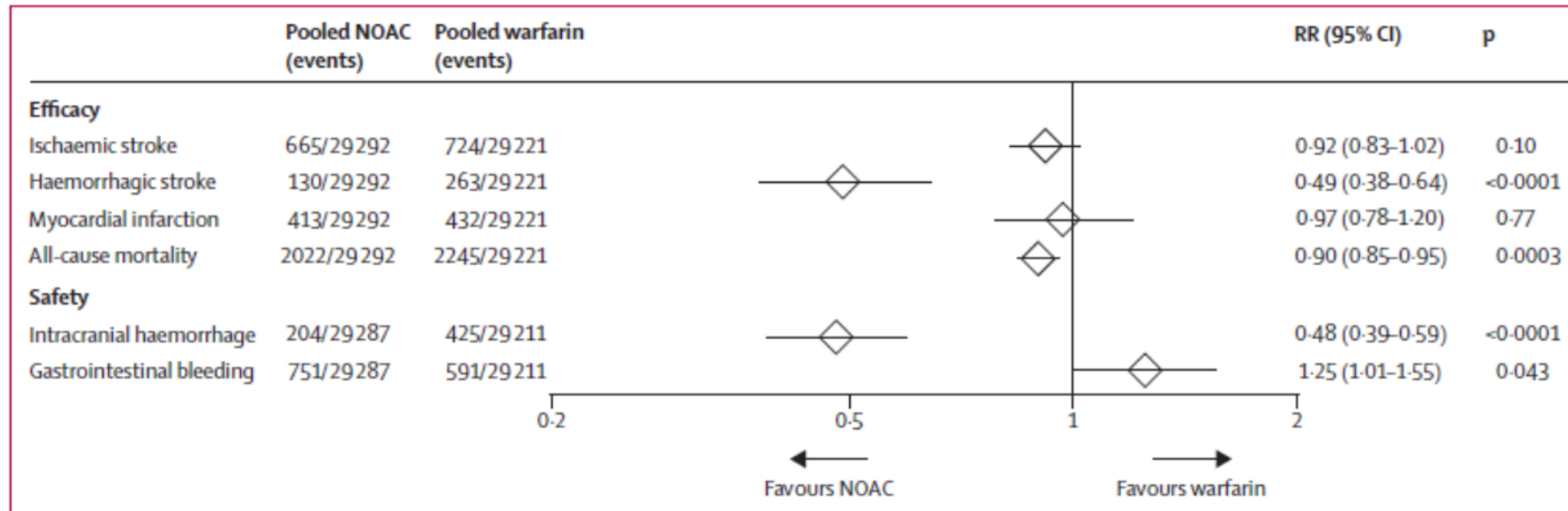
# Choosing among different anticoagulants



	VKA	NOACs
• Oral	✓	✓
• Reversible	✓	✓
• No significant food/drug interactions	✗	✓
• Predictable response	✗	✓
• No requirement for coagulation dosing	✗	✓
• Fixed dosing	✗	✓
• Cost	Low	High

# Comparison of the efficacy and safety of new oral anticoagulants with warfarin in patients with atrial fibrillation: a meta-analysis of randomised trials

Christian T Ruff, Robert P Giugliano, Eugene Braunwald, Elaine B Hoffman, Naveen Deenadayalu, Michael D Ezekowitz, A John Camm, Jeffrey I Weitz, Basil S Lewis, Alexander Parkhomenko, Takeshi Yamashita, Elliott M Antman

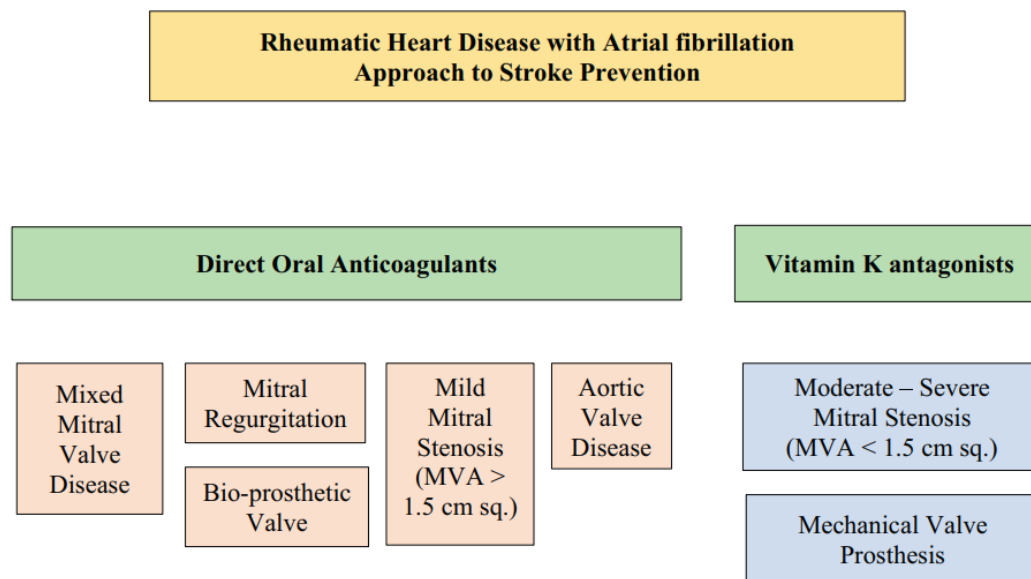


## NOACs are associated with:

- A significant reduction in hemorrhagic stroke (with a strong trend towards lower rates of ischemic stroke); all-cause mortality; ICH
- A significant reduction in intracranial hemorrhage
- A trend towards lower rates of MI
- An 25% increase in the risk of gastrointestinal bleeding

**Table 1** Differences between rheumatic AF and nonrheumatic valvular atrial fibrillation

Parameter	Rheumatic AF	Nonrheumatic valvular AF
Presentation	Mitral stenosis, mitral regurgitation, mixed mitral valve disease	Mitral regurgitation, mitral stenosis
Age, y	20-50	>60
Geographic distribution	Low- and middle-income countries	High-income countries
Pathology	Fibrosis and commissural fusion	Myxomatous valve (mitral regurgitation) Calcification of annulus and leaflets (mitral stenosis)
Comorbidities	Lesser	Higher
Atrial fibrillation	Common (52%)	Less common (16%)
Left atrial volume	Larger	Moderate enlargement
CHA <sub>2</sub> DS <sub>2</sub> -VASc Score	Untested, not applied	Applicable



**Figure 1** Stroke prevention in rheumatic atrial fibrillation. MVA = mitral valve area.

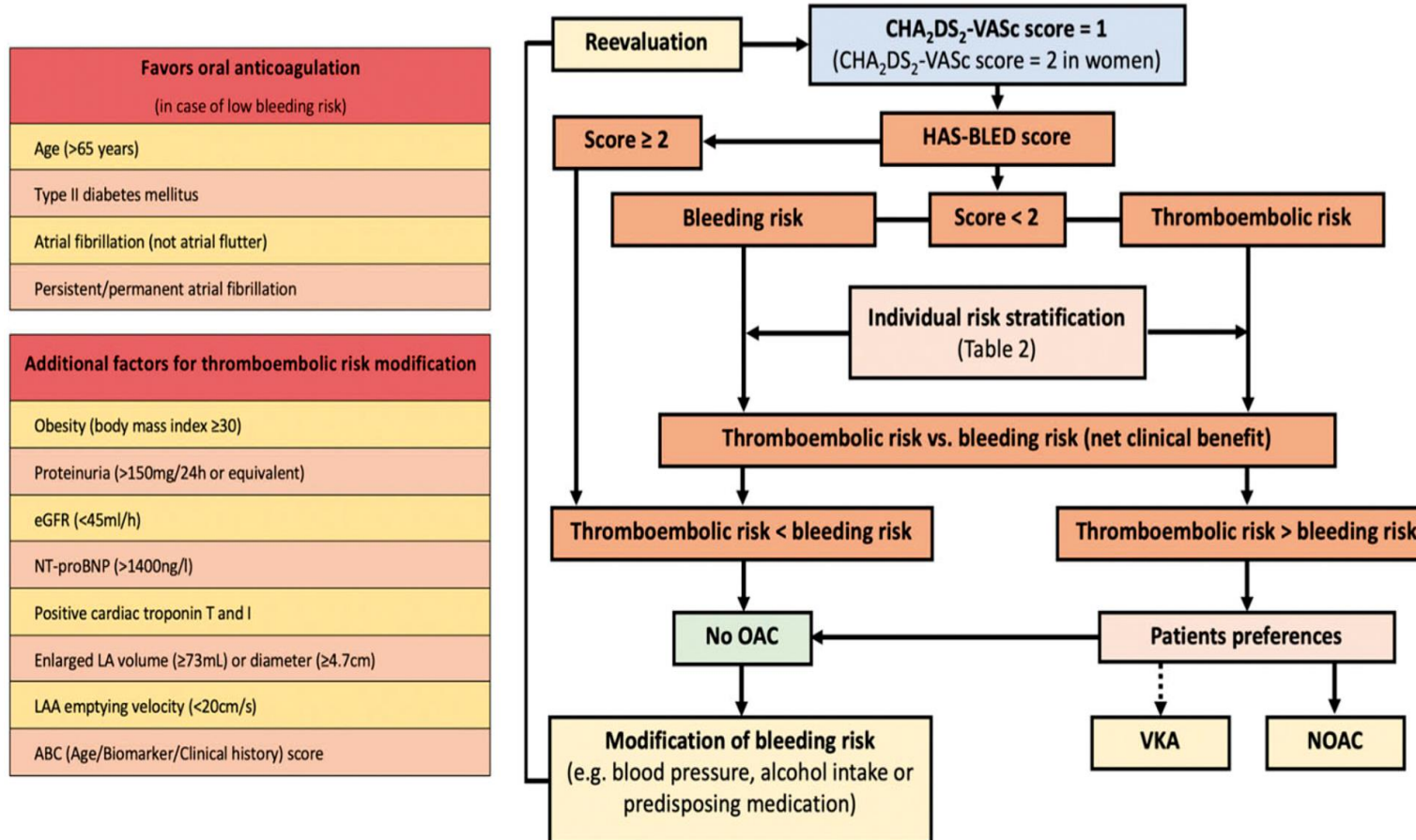
# HAS-BLED Score $\geq 3$ indicates high bleeding risk

**Table 3** Clinical Characteristics Comprising the HAS-BLED Bleeding Risk Score

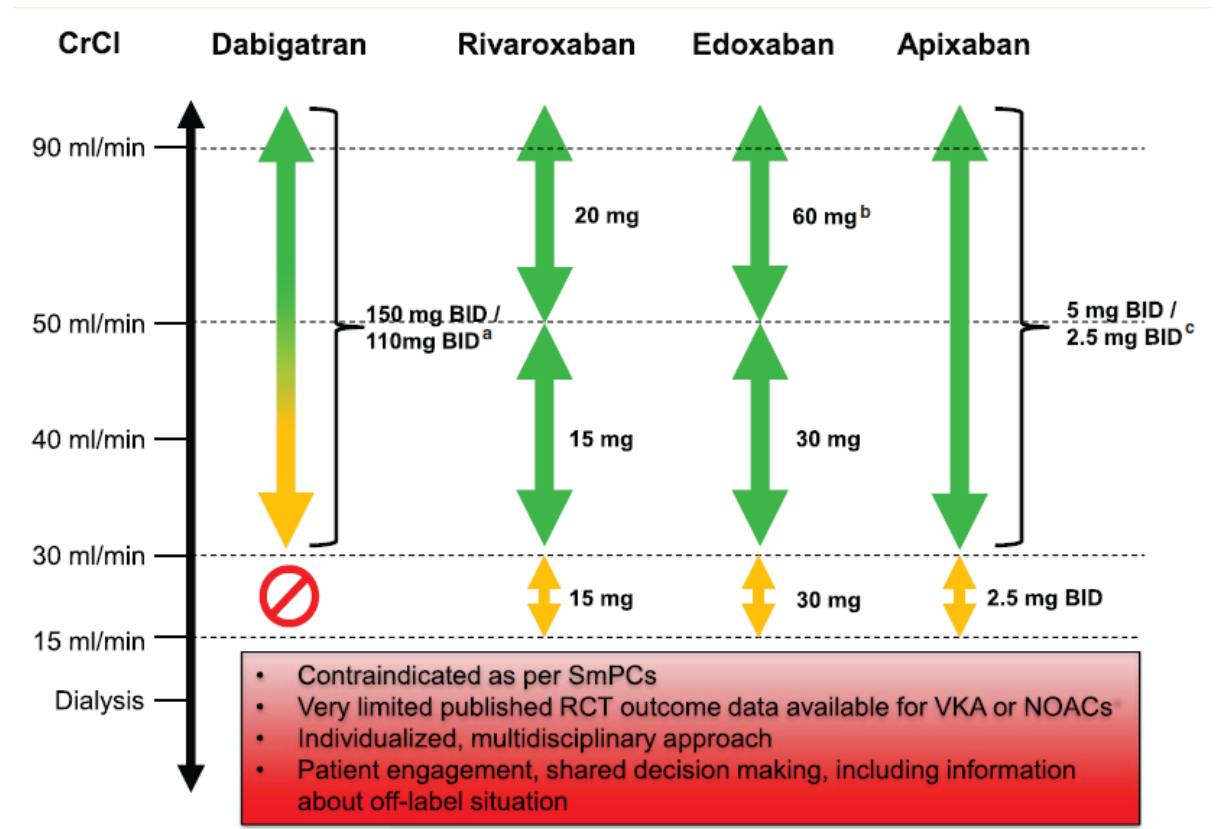
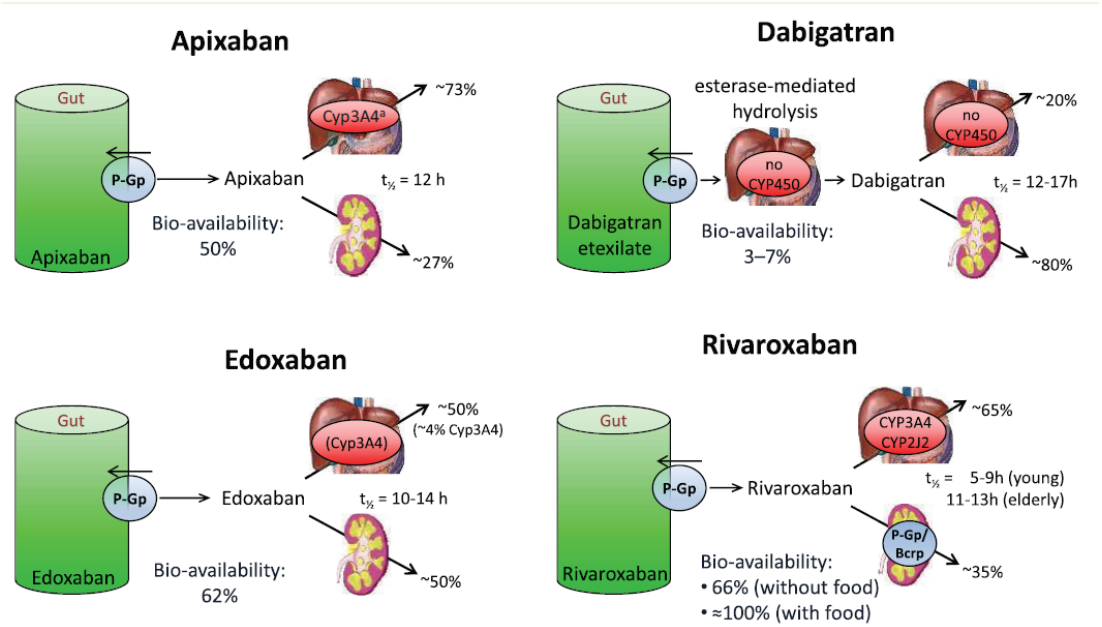
Letter	Clinical Characteristic*	Score	HAS-BLED Score	Bleeds per 100 Patient-years†
H	Hypertension	1	0	1.13
A	Abnormal renal and liver function (1 point each)	1 or 2	1	1.02
S	Stroke	1	2	1.88
B	Bleeding	1	3	3.74
L	Labile INRs	1	4	8.70
E	Elderly	1		
D	Drugs or alcohol (1 point each)	1 or 2		

Maximum 9 points

# Decision tree for oral anticoagulation in patients with atrial fibrillation and a CHA<sub>2</sub>DS<sub>2</sub>-VASc score of 1



# DOACs and renal function










# DOACs and renal function

**Table 2** OACs and approved/studied doses across indications

Stroke prevention in atrial fibrillation (SPAF)		
	Standard dose	Comments/dose reduction
Apixaban <sup>47</sup>	5 mg BID	2.5 mg BID if two out of three fulfilled: weight $\leq$ 60 kg, age $\geq$ 80 years, serum creatinine $\geq$ 133 $\mu$ mol/L (1.5 mg/dL) (or single criterion: if CrCl 15–29 mL/min)
Dabigatran <sup>48</sup>	150 mg BID/110 mg BID	No pre-specified dose-reduction criteria in phase III trial <sup>a</sup>
Edoxaban <sup>49</sup>	60 mg QD	30 mg QD if: weight $\leq$ 60 kg or CrCl 15–49 mL/min or concomitant therapy with strong P-Gp inhibitor (see 'Pharmacokinetics and drug-drug interactions of NOACs' section)
Rivaroxaban <sup>46</sup>	20 mg QD	15 mg QD if CrCl $\leq$ 15–49 mL/min

Dabigatran  
110 mg b.i.d. in patients with:

- Age  $\geq$ 80 years
- Concomitant use of verapamil, or
- Increased bleeding risk

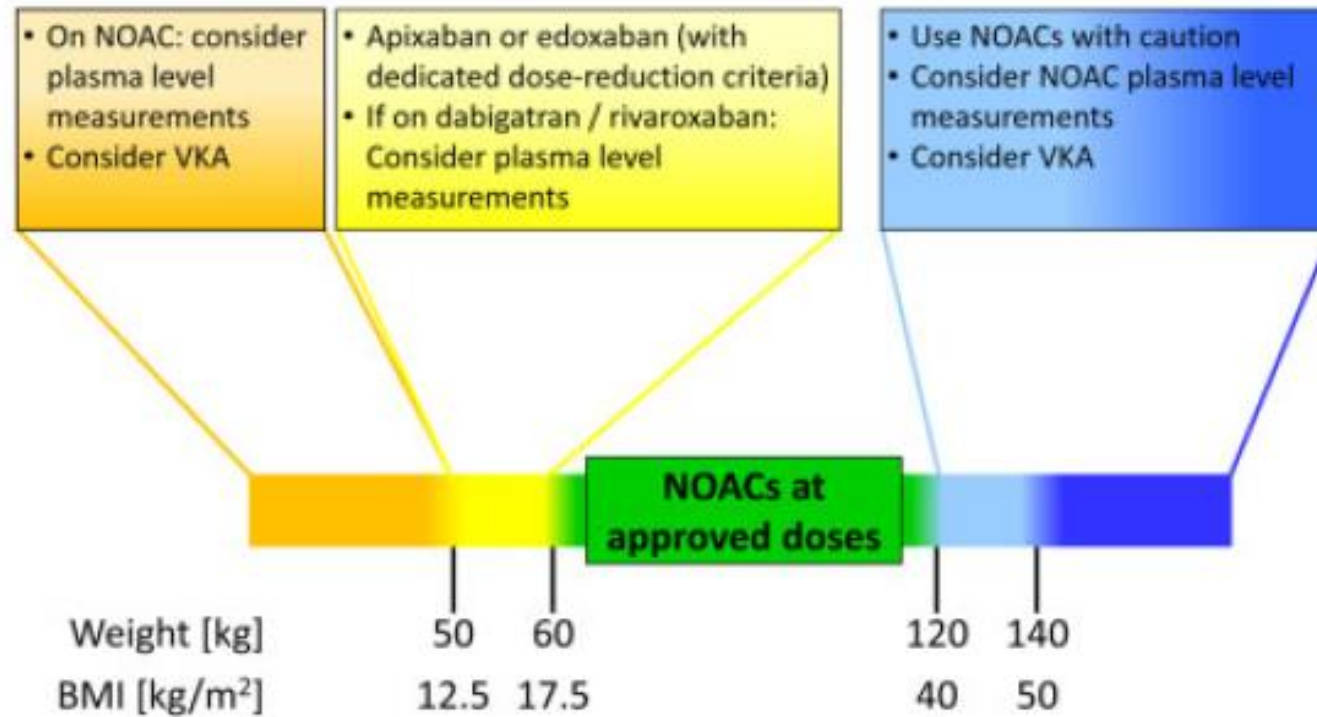
Vitamin K antagonist oral anticoagulants	Direct oral anticoagulants			
	Apixaban	Dabigatran	Edoxaban	Rivaroxaban
				
<b>Avoid where possible</b> NSAIDs Fluconazole Voriconazole Fluoxetine	<b>Avoid where possible</b> Carbamazepine Phenytoin Phenobarbital Rifampicin Ritonavir Itraconazole Ketoconazole	<b>Avoid where possible</b> Dronedarone Carbamazepine Phenytoin Rifampicin Ritonavir Itraconazole Ketoconazole Cyclosporin Glecaprevir/pibrentasvir Tacrolimus	<b>Avoid where possible</b> Carbamazepine Phenytoin Phenobarbital Rifampicin Ritonavir	<b>Avoid where possible</b> Dronedarone Carbamazepine Phenytoin Phenobarbital Itraconazole Ketoconazole Posaconazole Voriconazole Rifampicin Ritonavir
<b>Reduce warfarin dose</b> Amiodarone Metronidazole Sulphonamides Allopurinol Fluvastatin Gemfibrozil Fluorouracil	<b>Avoid or reduce apixaban dose if another interacting drug therapy</b> Posaconazole Voriconazole Protease inhibitors Apalutamide Enzalutamide Tyrosine kinase inhibitors	<b>Delay timing of drugs and/or adjust dose</b> Amiodarone Ticagrelor Verapamil Quinidine Clarithromycin Posaconazole	<b>Avoid or reduce edoxaban dose</b> Dronedarone	<b>Avoid if another interacting drug therapy</b> Protease inhibitors Tyrosine kinase inhibitors
<b>Increase warfarin dose</b> Carbamazepine		<b>Avoid or reduce edoxaban dose if another interacting drug therapy</b> Cyclosporin Itraconazole Ketoconazole Erythromycin		<b>Caution if renal function impaired</b> Verapamil Cyclosporin Clarithromycin Erythromycin Fluconazole
<b>Monitor INR carefully</b> Dronedarone Statins Penicillin antibiotics Macrolide antibiotics Quinolone antibiotics Rifampicin Methotrexate Ritonavir Phenytoin Sodium valproate Tamoxifen Chemotherapies	<b>Limit consumption</b> Grapefruit juice St John's wort	<b>Limit consumption</b> Grapefruit juice St John's wort	<b>Limit consumption</b> Grapefruit juice St John's wort	<b>Limit consumption</b> Grapefruit juice St John's wort
<b>Limit consumption</b> Alcohol Grapefruit/cranberry juice St John's wort				

## Drugs Interaction Checker

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## 2021 European Heart Rhythm Association Practical Guide on the Use of Non-Vitamin K Antagonist Oral Anticoagulants in Patients with Atrial Fibrillation

### NOACs in under- and overweight patients



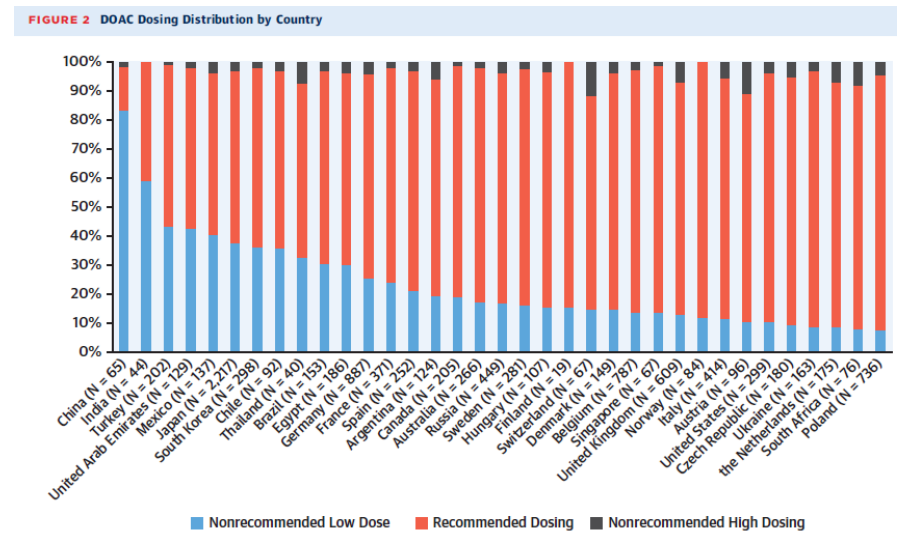
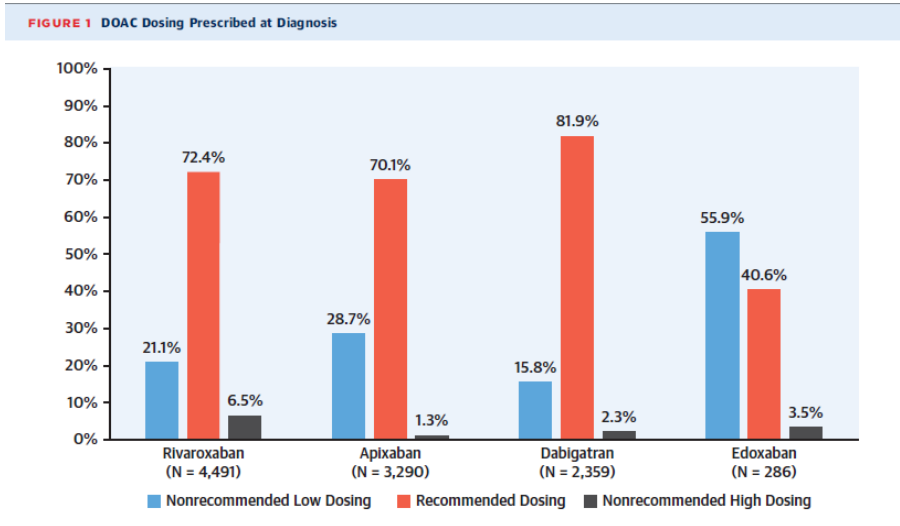
# Mortality in Patients With Atrial Fibrillation Receiving Nonrecommended Doses of Direct Oral Anticoagulants



Alan John Camm, MD,<sup>a</sup> Frank Cools, MD,<sup>b</sup> Saverio Viridone, MSc,<sup>c</sup> Jean-Pierre Bassand, MD,<sup>c,d</sup> David Andrew Fitzmaurice, MD,<sup>e</sup> Keith Alexander Arthur Fox, MBChB,<sup>f</sup> Samuel Zachary Goldhaber, MD,<sup>g</sup> Shinya Goto, MD, PhD,<sup>h</sup> Sylvia Haas, MD, PhD,<sup>i</sup> Lorenzo Giovanni Mantovani, MSc,<sup>j,k</sup> Gloria Kayani, BSc,<sup>c</sup> Alexander Graham Grierson Turpie, MD,<sup>l</sup> Freek Willem Antoon Verheugt, MD, PhD,<sup>m</sup> Ajay Kumar Kakkar, MBBS, PhD,<sup>c,n</sup> for the GARFIELD-AF Investigators\*

**OBJECTIVES** The impact of DOAC dosing, according to the recommended guidance on all-cause mortality, stroke/SE, and major bleeding, was assessed at 2-year follow-up in patients with newly diagnosed AF.

**METHODS** Of a total of 34,926 patients enrolled (2013 to 2016) in the prospective GARFIELD-AF (Global Anticoagulant Registry in the FIELD-AF), 10,426 patients received a DOAC.



**Figure 1. Perioperative Direct Oral Anticoagulant (DOAC) Dosing Schedule**

Surgical and nonsurgical procedures associated with **minimal** bleeding risk

- Cardiac device implantation (eg, pacemaker or cardioverter-defibrillator device)
- Coronary angiography using radial artery access
- Minor dermatologic procedures (eg, excision of basal and squamous cell skin cancers, actinic keratoses, or premalignant or cancerous skin nevi)
- Phacoemulsification (cataract) procedures
- Minor dental procedures (eg, dental extractions, restorations, cleanings, or fillings)

DOAC DOSING REGIMEN	PREOPERATIVE DOAC INTERRUPTION SCHEDULE					SURGERY DAY Day 0	POSTOPERATIVE DOAC RESUMPTION SCHEDULE			
	Day -5	Day -4	Day -3	Day -2	Day -1		Day +1	Day +2	Day +3	
<b>Procedures associated with low or moderate bleeding risk</b>										
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Laparoscopic cholecystectomy</li> <li>• Abdominal hernia repair</li> <li>• Abdominal hysterectomy</li> <li>• Lymph node biopsy</li> <li>• Foot or hand surgery</li> <li>• Coronary angiography using femoral artery access</li> <li>• Gastrointestinal endoscopy with or without biopsy</li> <li>• Colonoscopy with or without biopsy</li> <li>• Hemorrhoidal surgery</li> <li>• Bronchoscopy with or without biopsy</li> </ul>	<b>Rivaroxaban</b> Once a day	●	●	●	●	■	■	●	●	●
	<b>Edoxaban</b> Once a day	●	●	●	●	■	■	●	●	●
	<b>Apixaban</b> Twice a day	● ●	● ●	● ●	● ●	■	■	● ●	● ●	● ●
	<b>Dabigatran</b> Twice a day CrCl ≥50 mL/min	● ●	● ●	● ●	● ●	■	■	● ●	● ●	● ●
	<b>Dabigatran</b> Twice a day CrCl <50 mL/min	● ●	● ●	● ●	■	■	■	● ●	● ●	● ●

Procedures associated with **high** bleeding risk

- Any surgery with spinal or epidural anesthesia
- Major cancer surgery (eg, lung, esophagus, gastric, colon, kidney, or hepatobiliary)
- Major orthopedic surgery (eg, hip or knee replacement)
- Major reconstructive plastic surgery (eg, cancer resection)
- Noncancer major thoracoabdominal surgery (eg, colectomy)
- Transurethral prostate or bladder resection
- Selected biopsies (eg, kidney)
- Selected gastrointestinal procedures (eg, endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography)
- Surgery involving highly vascular organs (eg, kidneys)
- Surgery involving closed space areas (eg, cardiac)
- Deep nerve block procedures

DOAC DOSING REGIMEN	PREOPERATIVE DOAC INTERRUPTION SCHEDULE					SURGERY DAY Day 0	POSTOPERATIVE DOAC RESUMPTION SCHEDULE		
	Day -5	Day -4	Day -3	Day -2	Day -1		Day +1	Day +2	Day +3
<b>Rivaroxaban</b> Once a day	●	●	●	■	■	■	■	●	●
<b>Edoxaban</b> Once a day	●	●	●	■	■	■	■	●	●
<b>Apixaban</b> Twice a day	● ●	● ●	● ●	■	■	■	■	● ●	● ●
<b>Dabigatran</b> Twice a day CrCl ≥50 mL/min	● ●	● ●	● ●	■	■	■	■	● ●	● ●
<b>Dabigatran</b> Twice a day CrCl <50 mL/min	●	■	■	■	■	■	■	● ●	● ●

● DOAC dose taken     
 ● DOAC dose taken if hemostasis secured     
 ■ DOAC not taken

# What if a patient has a stroke on OAC?

**Investigate the etiology of stroke!!!**

**Neurology**  
The most widely read and highly cited peer-reviewed neurology journal  
The Official Journal of the American Academy of Neurology

AMERICAN ACADEMY OF  
NEUROLOGY

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**Neurology Publish Ahead of Print**  
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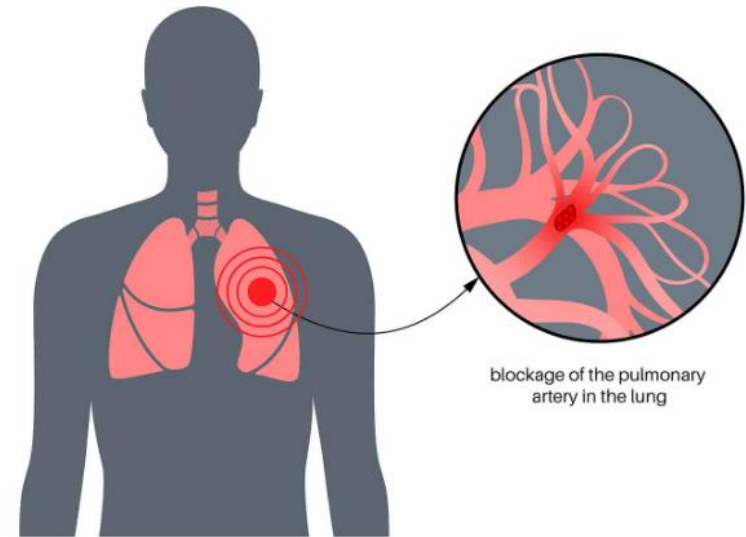
Association of Alternative Anticoagulation Strategies and Outcomes in Patients With Ischemic Stroke While Taking a Direct Oral Anticoagulant

**Author(s):**  
Yiu Ming Bonaventure Ip, MD<sup>1</sup>; Kui Kai Lau, DPhil<sup>2</sup>; Ho Ko, PhD<sup>1,3</sup>; Lucas Lau<sup>1</sup>; Alan Yao<sup>1</sup>; Grace Lai-Hung Wong, MD<sup>1,4</sup>; Terry Cheuk-Fung Yip, PhD<sup>1,4</sup>; Xinyi Leng, PhD<sup>1</sup>; Howard Chan, PhD<sup>1</sup>; Helen Chan, BSc<sup>1</sup>; Vincent Mok, MD, FRCP<sup>1</sup>; Yannie O.Y. Soo, MD<sup>1</sup>; David Seiffge<sup>5</sup>; Thomas W Leung, MD<sup>1</sup>

This study provides Class II evidence that in patients with non-valvular AF suffering an ischemic stroke while being treated with a DOAC, **continuing treatment with that DOAC is more effective** at preventing recurrent ischemic stroke than switching to a different DOAC or to warfarin.



## PULMONARY EMBOLISM



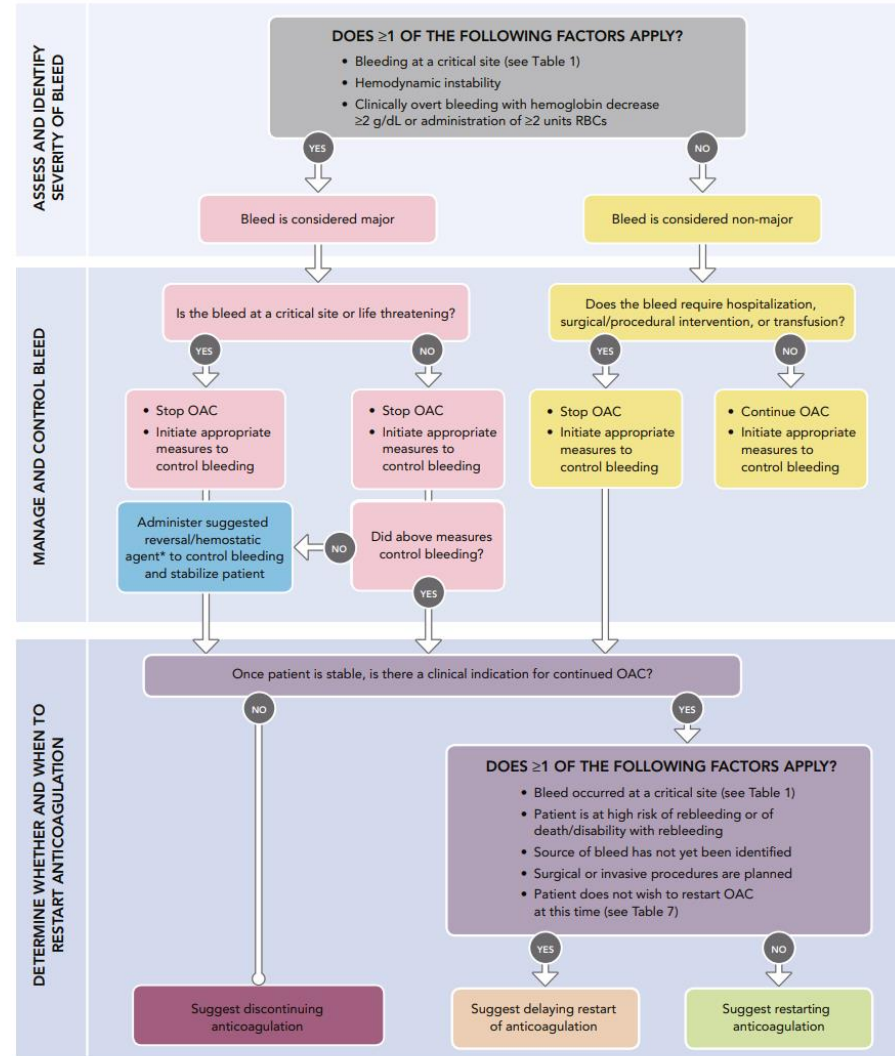


# DOAC Dosing for VTE Treatment

	Dabigatran (Pradaxa®)	Rivaroxaban (Xarelto®)	Apixaban (Eliquis®)
Treatment of VTE	150 mg PO BID after 5 – 10 days of parenteral anticoagulation	15 mg PO BID with food for 21 days, ↓ then 20 mg PO daily with food	10 mg PO BID for 7 days, ↓ then 5 mg PO BID
Renal Adjustment	Clcr ≤ 30 mL/min: no dosing recommendation	Clcr < 30 mL/min: avoid use	None
Hepatic Adjustment	None	Moderate or severe hepatic impairment: not recommended	Severe hepatic impairment: not recommended
Drug Interactions	Clcr < 50 mL/min with concomitant P-gp inhibitor: avoid concomitant use  P-gp inducers: avoid concomitant use	Strong dual CYP3A4/P-gp inhibitors/inducers: avoid concomitant use	Strong dual CYP3A4/P-gp inhibitors: ↓ dose by 50%  Strong dual CYP3A4/P-gp inducers: avoid concomitant use

Clcr = creatinine clearance, CYP = cytochrome P450, P-gp = P-glycoprotein

FIGURE 1 Summary Graphic

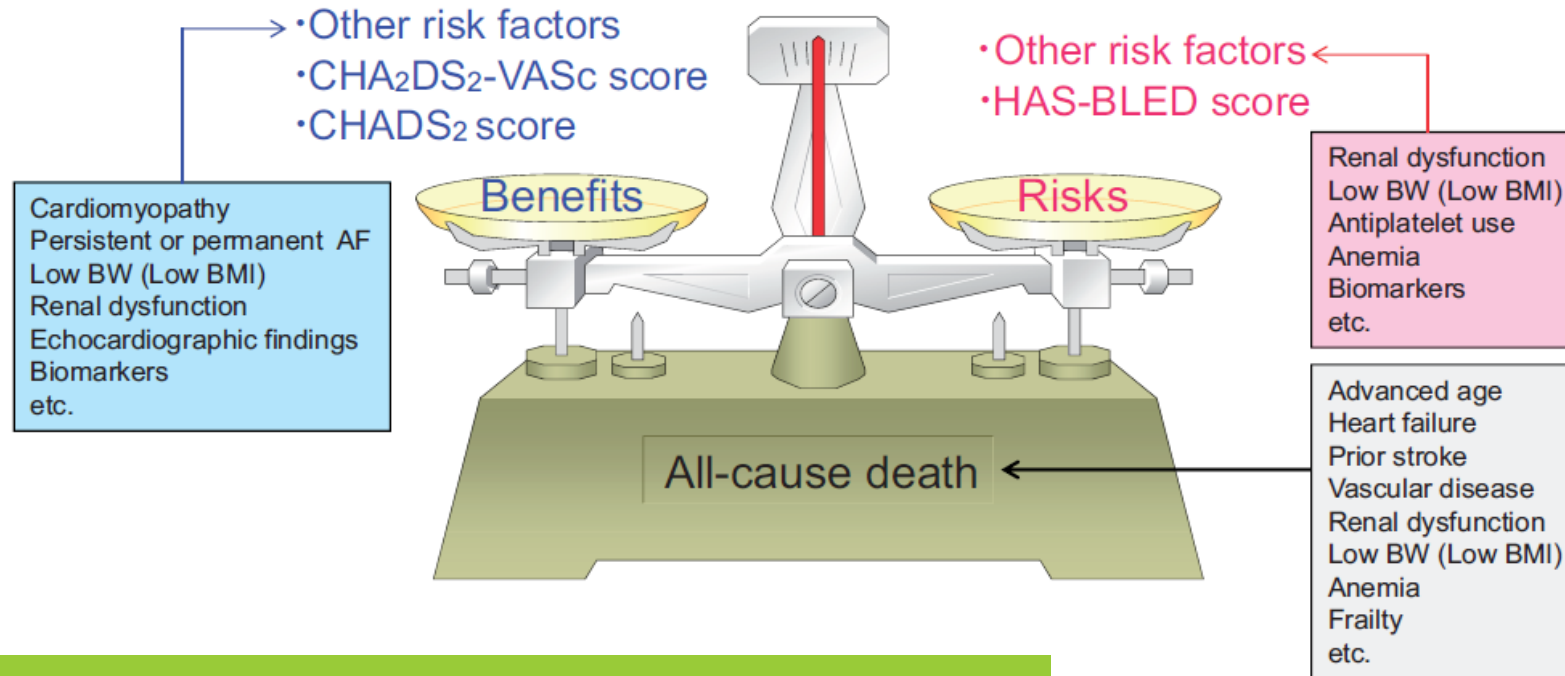


# AF Patients\*

Stroke prevention

Hemorrhagic events

## Anticoagulation



Another important aspect is a dynamic nature of risk profiles. The stroke risk in patients with AF does not remain static, and with time, patients get older and accumulate more comorbidities.

European Heart Journal Supplements (2020) 22 (Supplement O), O1-013

The Heart of the Matter  
doi:10.1093/eurheartj/suaa176

# Conclusions

CHA<sub>2</sub>DS<sub>2</sub>-VA and HAS-BLED score determination

DOACs preferable to VKA

Dosage (eGFR, body weight, drug interactions)

Frequent monitoring of patients

Good co-operation among different specialties

THANK YOU FOR YOUR  
ATTENTION