

# Madigan Army Medical Center

## Referral Guidelines

### Oral Anticoagulation

#### Diagnosis/Definition

- Patients who have anticoagulation management requirements involving administration and monitoring of Warfarin (Coumadin) are followed by the Anticoagulation Clinic (968-2365). The Anticoagulation Clinic provides educational classes to new enrollees, and ongoing monitoring of PT/INR (prothrombin time/international normalized ratio), with continual recommendations for warfarin dose adjustment including drug-drug interactions and supratherapeutic INR. The goal is to provide follow-up and dose adjustment adequate to maintain the PT/INR within designated therapeutic ranges specific to the conditions for which the anticoagulation is indicated.

#### Initial Diagnosis and Management

- History and physical exam.
- Dx of disease requiring anticoagulation therapy.
- PTT, PT, INR
- Consult to Anticoagulation Clinic at MAMC in CHCS or:  
American Lakes VA 1-253-582-8440  
Naval Hospital Bremerton 1-360-475-4205  
Naval Hospital Oak Harbor 1-360-257-7125/9692  
Secure Horizons: Contact individual HCP/PCP
- Rx
  - Coumadin 2mg #10, sig: take as directed
  - Coumadin 5mg #10, sig: take as directed
- Anticoagulation Clinic will provide all refills and renewals, PCM will provide only initial and emergency supply if needed.
- The provider is requested to call the Anticoagulation Clinic to facilitate appointment prior to discharge (inpatient) or for outpatients. Patients will be seen within 3 working days after discharge or outpatient initiation to provide patient education and arrange for follow-up. Patient will receive "survival skills" education by the dispensing pharmacist.
- Patient management is the responsibility of the referring provider until the patient has received education from the Anticoagulation Clinic

#### Ongoing Management and Objectives

- To maintain the patient's INR at the level recommended by his/her physicians.
- **Management of Supratherapeutic INRs.**
- Highest risk **drug-drug interaction scripts.**

#### Indications for Specialty Care Referral

- All patients taking warfarin should be referred to one of the Anticoagulation Clinics for follow-up.

- The consult to the Anticoagulation Clinic should include:
  - Diagnosis (as specific as possible, i.e. idiopathic vs post surgery/trauma DVT)
  - Current warfarin dosage
  - Length of therapy anticipated
  - INR range and INR goal
  - Last PT & INR on Enoxaparin? How long?
  - Cardioversion anticipated now or in the future?
  - Hospital discharge date

### **Criteria for Return to Primary Care**

- Patient no longer taking warfarin.
- Please note that all other health care and other prescriptions are the responsibility of the patients' Primary Health Care Provider.

Last Review for this Guideline: **January 2010**

Referral Guidelines require review every three years.

Maintained by the Madigan Army Medical Center - Quality Services Division  
Clinical Practice and Referral Guidelines Administrator