

DOAC Counselling Checklist

Apixaban (Eliquis®), Dabigatran (Pradaxa®), Edoxaban (Lixiana®), Rivaroxaban (Xarelto®)

DOAC Agent Counselling:

Counselling points	Sign
Explanation of an anticoagulant (increases clotting time and reduces risk of clot formation) and explanation of indication for therapy (AF and stroke risk reduction/DVT/PE)	
Differences between DOAC and warfarin (if applicable for patients converting from warfarin to DOAC therapy <u>or</u> offering choice of anticoagulation agent) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No routine INR monitoring Fixed dosing No dietary restrictions and alcohol intake permitted (within national guidelines) Fewer drug interactions 	
Name of drug: generic & brand name	
Explanation of dose: strength & frequency	
Duration of therapy: lifelong for AF or explain course length for DVT / PE treatment or prevention	
To take with food (dabigatran and rivaroxaban). Not required for apixaban or edoxaban	
Missed doses: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Apixaban and dabigatran can be taken within 6 hours of missed dose, otherwise omit the missed dose Edoxaban and rivaroxaban can be taken within 12 hours of missed dose, otherwise omit the missed dose 	
Extra doses taken: obtain advice immediately from pharmacist/GP/NHS Direct (111)	
Importance of adherence: short half-life and associated risk of stroke and/or thrombosis if non-compliant	
Common and serious side-effects and who/when to refer: symptoms of bleeding/unexplained bruising. Avoidance of contact sports. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Single/self-terminating bleeding episode – routine appointment with GP/pharmacist Prolonged/recurrent/severe bleeding/head injury – A&E Major bleeds managed/reversed by supportive measures, Prothrombin Complex Concentrate (PCC), and availability of antidote	
Drug interactions and concomitant medication: avoid NSAID's. Always check with a pharmacist regarding OTC/herbal/complimentary medicines	
Inform all healthcare professionals of DOAC therapy: GP, nurse, dentist, pharmacist i.e. prior to surgery	
Pregnancy and breastfeeding: potential risk to foetus – obtain medical advice as soon as possible if pregnant/considering pregnancy. Avoid in breastfeeding	
Storage: dabigatran <u>must</u> be kept in original packaging – moisture sensitive. All other DOAC are suitable for standard medication compliance aids/ dosette boxes if required	
Follow-up appointments, blood tests, and repeat prescriptions: where and when	
Issue relevant patient information AF booklet/leaflet and anticoagulant patient alert card	
Give patient opportunity to ask questions and encourage follow up with community pharmacist (NMS – New Medicine Service)	