



HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL
TEACHING HOSPITAL



New Anticoagulants Therapies

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Conflicts of Interest

No disclosures



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Agenda

- Historical perspective
- Novel oral anticoagulants
 - Stats
 - Trials
 - Approval
 - Concerns/Limitations
 - Advantages/Disadvantages
 - How to treat bleeding



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Novel Oral Anticoagulants

- Until recently, vitamin K antagonist was the only available orally active anticoagulant.
- The novel oral anticoagulants:
 - can be given in fixed doses
 - do not require routine monitoring
 - have fewer food or drug interactions
 - are more predictable.



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Novel Oral Anticoagulants

- Xarelto: Rivaroxaban
- Pradaxa: Dabigatran
- Eliquis: Apixaban
- Savaysa: Edoxaban



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Rivaroxaban

- **Stats**

- Oral direct factor Xa inhibitor
- Rapid onset: 2.5-4 hours
- T1/2 life: 11-13 hours
- Excretion: renal.
- Dosing:
 - For post operative thromboprophylaxis in orthopedic surgery
 - 10 mg/day
 - For non valvular Afib (to prevent strokes and systemic embolism)
 - 20 mg/day
 - For VTE
 - 15 mg/bid x 3 weeks and then 20 mg/day.

NVAF = non valvular atrial fibrillation
VTE = venous thromboembolism



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Rivaroxaban

- ***Trials***

- ROCKET
 - Prevention of stroke/VTE in atrial fibrillation
- RECORD 1-4
 - Prevention of VTE after orthopedic procedures
- EINSTEIN
 - Treatment of VTE
- MAGELLAN
 - Extended Duration

- ***Approval***

- VTE prevention after hip or knee arthroplasty
- VTE treatment and for stroke prevention in non valvular atrial fibrillation.
- VTE treatment and reduction in risk of recurrent VTE.



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EINSTEIN: Acute DVT Study

Outcome	Rivaroxaban	LMWH/VKA or placebo	95% CI; p value
Recurrent VTE (initial)	2.1%	3.0%	HR 0.68; 95% CI, 0.44 to 1.04; P<0.001 (non inferior)
Recurrent VTE (continued)	1.3%	7.1%	HR 0.18; 95% CI, 0.09 to 0.39; P<0.001
Major Bleeding (initial)	8.1%	8.1%	NS
Non fatal Bleed (continued)	0.7%	NA	P=0.11

Rivaroxaban

- **Renal and hepatic issues:**
 - Not recommended for creatinine clearance <30 mL/min.
 - Contraindicated for creatinine clearance <15 mL/min or significant hepatic impairment (Child-Pugh Class B and C).
 - Must take with food.
- **Drug Interactions**
 - Potent inhibitors of CYP-3A4 & P-glycoprotein efflux transporter (ketoconazole, ritonavir, clarithromycin) - use contraindicated.
 - Potent inducers of CYP-3A4 (eg, rifampin, carbamazepine, St. John's wort) may reduce rivaroxaban's effects.
- **Hemorrhage:** there is **no specific antidote**.
 - Drug discontinuation since short half-life.
 - Over 90% protein bound - cannot be dialyzed
 - Charcoal hemofiltration has been suggested.
 - Life-threatening bleeding: options?



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Dabigatran

- **Stats**
 - Oral direct thrombin inhibitor (DTI)
 - Rapid onset: 2 hours
 - T_{1/2} life: 12-17 hours
 - Clearance: renal
 - Dosing: 150 mg bid (adjust if renal failure)
- **Monitoring**: no need because of predictable PK
- **Trials**
 - RE-LY
 - Prevention of stroke/VTE in atrial fibrillation
 - RE-MODEL, RE-NOVATE, RE-MOBILIZE
 - Prevention of VTE after orthopedic procedures
 - RE-COVER, RE-MEDY and RE-SONATE
 - Treatment of VTE



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Dabigatran

- *Approval*

- To prevent stroke and systemic embolism in patients with nonvalvular atrial fibrillation.
- To treat deep vein thrombosis and pulmonary embolism in patients who have been treated with a parenteral anticoagulant for 5-10 days
- To reduce the risk of recurrence of deep vein thrombosis and pulmonary embolism in patients who have been previously treated.



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Dabigatran: RE-COVER

Outcome	Dabigatran	Warfarin	95% CI; p value
Recurrent VTE	2.4%	2.1%	-0.8 to 1.5; P<0.001 for prespecified noninferiority margin
Major Bleed	1.6%	1.9%	0.45 to 1.48; P = 0.38
Any Bleed	16.1%	21.9%	0.59 to 0.85; P<0.001
Adverse event lead stopping	9.0%	6.8%	P=0.05

Schulman et al. NEJM 2009;361:2342-2352



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Dabigatran

- ***Limitations***

- The first dose of dabigatran was given only after initial parenteral anticoagulation therapy had been administered for a median of 9 days.
- FDA approval is for its use only after parenteral anticoagulation and not as monotherapy.



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Dabigatran

- ***Hemorrhage***

- Stop drug.
 - Half life:
 - 13 hours (11-22) if creatinine clearance > 80 mL/min
 - 18 hours (13-23) if creatinine clearance 30-50 mL/min
- For patients with normal renal function, you can expect effects to be gone in 72-96 hours.
- Obtain stat aPTT and PT-INR.
 - If normal, suggests Dabigatran effect gone.
- Identify cause of bleeding
- Be wary of giving procoagulant drugs as patients on DTI have underlying procoagulant condition.
- Treat supportively with RBC.
- Other options



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Dabigatran

- Patients on DTI are not deficient in coagulation factors.
- DTI unrelated to fibrinolytic or Vitamin K dependent pathways.
- Inhibits last enzymatic step in coag cascade. Agents that stimulate cascade or replace coag factors proximal to thrombin won't compensate for profound terminal defect in hemostasis.



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Dabigatran: Concerns

- Unclear how to use in individuals with low body weight or those who are morbidly obese.
- Drug interactions: p-glycoprotein
 - Inhibit (increases drug effect):
 - ketoconazole, quinidine, amiodarone, verapamil
 - Induce (decreases drug effect):
 - rifampin, St. John's wort

These drugs may also interact with warfarin but you can monitor that with INR



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Apixaban

- **Stats**

- Oral direct factor Xa inhibitor
- Rapid onset: 3-4 hours
- T_{1/2} life: 8-15
- Excretion: 25% renal and feces
- 87% protein bound so no role for hemodialysis
- Dosing:
 - For post operative thromboprophylaxis in orthopedic surgery.
 - 2.5 mg bid
 - For prevention of stroke in NVAF:
 - 5 mg bid
 - Patients with 2 following factors: age ≥ 80 years, body weight ≤ 60 kg, or serum creatinine ≥ 1.5 mg/dL, dose is 2.5 mg bid.
 - For treatment of VTE:
 - 10 mg bid for 7 days followed by 5 mg bid.
 - For reducing risk of recurrent VTE following initial therapy:
 - 2.5 mg bid

Apixaban Trials

- ***Trials***
 - ARISTOTLE and AVERROES
 - ADVANCE 1,2, and 3
 - AMPLIFY
 - Extended VTE treatment: ADOPT trial
- ***Approval:***
 - To reduce the risk of stroke and systemic embolism in patients with nonvalvular atrial fibrillation.
 - To treat VTE and to reduce risk of recurrent VTE following initial therapy.



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Apixaban: AMPLIFY

Outcome	Apixaban (n=2691)	VKA (n=2704)	RR (95% CI); p value
Primary (1 st recurrent VTE or VTE- related death)	59 (2.3%)	71 (2.7%)	0.84 (0.60 to 1.18); P<0.001 for noninferiority.
Safety Outcome	115 (4.3%)	261 (9.7%)	0.44; (0.36 to 0.55); P<0.001 for superiority.
Major Bleeding	15 (0.6%)	49 (1.8%)	0.31; (0.17–0.55); P<0.001 for superiority



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Edoxaban

- **Stats**

- Oral direct factor Xa inhibitor
- Rapid onset: 1-2 hours
- T1/2 life: 10-14 hours
- Excretion: renal.
- Dosing:
 - For treatment of NVAF:
 - 60 mg daily if CrCL >50 to ≤ 95 mL/min.
 - 30 mg daily if creatinine clearance 15 to 50 mL/min.
 - **Do not use in patients with CrCL > 95 mL/min.**
 - For treatment of DVT and PE: after initial parenteral agent
 - 60 mg once daily.
 - 30 mg daily if CrCL 15 to 50 mL/min or weight < 60 kg.



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Edoxaban

- ***Trials***
 - ENGAGE AF-TIMI 48
 - Prevention of stroke/VTE in atrial fibrillation
 - Hokusai VTE
 - Treatment of VTE
- ***Approval***
 - To reduce risk of stroke and systemic embolism in patients with nonvalvular atrial fibrillation (NVAf).
 - For the treatment of deep vein thrombosis and pulmonary embolism following 5 to 10 days of initial therapy with parenteral anticoagulant.



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Edoxaban: Hokusai VTE Study

Outcome	Edoxaban (n=4118)	VKA (n=4122)	95% CI; p value
Primary (1st recurrent VTE or VTE- related death)	130 (3.2%)	146 (3.5%)	0.70 to 1.13; P<0.001 for noninferiority.
Safety Outcome	349 (8.5%)	423 (10.3%)	0.71 to 0.94; P = 0.004 for superiority.
Major Bleeding	56 (1.4%)	66 (1.6%)	0.84 (0.59–1.21) P = 0.35 for superiority

Hokusai-VTE Investigators. N Engl J Med. 2013;369:1406-15.



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Edoxaban

- **Concerns**

- Should not be used in patients with CrCL > 95 mL/min because of an increased risk of ischemic stroke compared to warfarin.
- Should not be used in patients with moderate or severe hepatic impairment (Child-Pugh B and C) as these patients may have intrinsic coagulation abnormalities. No dose reduction is required in patients with mild hepatic impairment.

Edoxaban

- ***Limitations***

- Need for heparin lead-in BUT it may have encouraged investigators to enroll a higher proportion of patients with severe grades of VTE.

- ***Potential Advantage***

- Approximately one third patients had right ventricular dysfunction. There was reduction in recurrences among patients with elevated NT-proBNP levels in edoxaban group.
 - Rate of recurrent VTE in this subgroup was 3.3% in the edoxaban group and 6.2% in the warfarin group (HR, 0.52; 95% CI, 0.28 to 0.98).

Cautions with Novel Oral Anticoagulants

- No reversal agent (but currently in trials)
- No monitoring for effect
- Adherence
- Compliance
- Renal and hepatic failure
- Reimbursement issues
- Post marketing bleeding rates
- Long term safety data
- Clinician familiarity
- Lack of guidelines
 - procedures or bleeding complications



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Advantages with Novel Oral Anticoagulants

- Oral
- No need for monitoring
- No need for titration or dose adjustments
- Short onset
- Short half life
- Predictable absorption and metabolism
- Fewer drug-drug interactions
- Fewer dietary restrictions



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Novel oral anticoagulants: Important questions

- How to treat patients on new oral anticoagulants who develop hemorrhage.
- How does one decide which novel oral anticoagulant to use?
 - Depends on patient factors



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