

Renal Services

Information for haemodialysis patients who take Warfarin medication

Please read this leaflet carefully

This information aims to help us ensure that your INR sample (which is the blood test taken to monitor the dose of warfarin required) is taken in a timely manner with the correct paperwork, to allow the smooth process of monitoring and prescribing your warfarin dose.

Patients are prescribed warfarin for a number of reasons.

As a patient taking warfarin you should have received the following:

- OAT pack (Oral Anticoagulation Therapy) book which includes advice for people taking warfarin along with side effects etc.
- Yellow book with the reason why you are on warfarin with a therapeutic range (which is the range we would like your INR result to be).
- Emergency card to carry at all times.

If you do not have any of the above please contact the Anti-Coagulation Team on 024 7696 5533 and they will arrange to send one out to you.

Previously we took an INR blood test every week on the first dialysis session of the week. This is not always required. If your INR result has remained stable the anti-coagulation team will indicate in your yellow book when your next INR blood test is required.

When your INR blood test is taken we send the sample with your yellow book to the clotting lab. From here the blood result is sent to the anti-coagulation team along with your yellow book. The anti-coagulation team will then prescribe the dose of warfarin to take and state when a next blood test is due (this information is on a sticker placed in your yellow book). The yellow book is then returned to you in the post.



Patient Information

Once you have received your dosage instructions could you please bring in the yellow book to the dialysis unit for us to keep in the front of your file to allow us to monitor when your next blood test is due.

In the meantime please remember if you have any signs of bleeding or bruising please inform the anti-coagulation team and your dialysis nurse when attending the Renal Unit.

If you have any excessive bleeding please seek urgent medical attention.

If you have any further questions regarding warfarin please contact the anti-coagulation team on 024 7696 5533.

The Trust has access to interpreting and translation services. If you need this information in another language or format please contact 024 7696 7777 and we will do our best to meet your needs.

The Trust operates a smoke free policy

Document History

Author	Sister Jo Vaughan
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Published	December 2010
Reviewed	January 2012, March 2014, May 2016, July 2018
Review	July 2020
Version	5
Reference	HIC/LFT/1164/11