

The Perioperative Patient

Management of Anticoagulation Before Surgery

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Mrs S with a SCC on her leg for excision

- 75 year old lady with a drug eluting stent 4 months ago for unstable angina.
- On aspirin and clopidogrel
- How will you manage her antithrombotic medication?

Management of Anticoagulation Before Surgery

The Issues

- The risk of bleeding from the procedure
- The patient's risk of a thrombotic event

Procedural Bleeding Risk

Low Risk

- Minor dermatological procedures
- Simple dental and periodontal work
- Ophthalmic surgery

High Risk

- Spinal/epidural anaesthetic
- Spinal/neurosurgery
- Joint surgery
- Cardiovascular surgery



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Perioperative Thrombotic Risk

- Embolic stroke – 70% risk major disability or death
- Thrombosis of mechanical valve - 15% mortality
- Perioperative ischaemia – 2-4x increase in mortality

Patient Risk

With coronary stenting

- Drug eluting stent
 - Continue aspirin
 - Clopidogrel essential for first 6 months
- Bare metal stent
 - Continue aspirin
 - Clopidogrel essential for 4-6 weeks
- Ischaemic heart disease/ CABG
 - Continue aspirin



Skin surgery With Antithrombotic Agents Complication Rate

	Nil	Moderate	Severe
Clopidogrel	86%	6%	3%, (+ASA) 4%
Aspirin	95%	1%	0.5%
Nil	98%	0.2%	0



Mr R awaiting dental extraction

- Aged 81
- AF on warfarin
- Previous CVA
- Diabetic
- Hypertensive

How will you manage his anticoagulation?

Mr R (AF on Warfarin) for Dental Extraction

- CHADS score = 5 (high risk)
- Continue warfarin (INR 2.0)
- Topical prohaemostatic agent

Mr D awaiting THJR

- Aged 82
- AF on dabigatran
- Hypertensive
- No previous CVA/TIA
- CHADS score = 2

Patient Risk Stratification for Perioperative Thromboembolism

Risk Stratum	AF	
High	CHADS score 5 or 6 CVA/TIA last 3/12 Rheumatic heart disease	Bridging anticoagulation (LMWH)
Moderate	CHADS score 3 or 4	Bridging anticoagulation
Low	CHADS score 0-2 No prior CVA/TIA	Stop warfarin/dabigatran

Timing for Stopping Dabigatran

Renal function Cr/Cl	Minor surgery	Major surgery
>50	24 hours	2-4 days
30 - 50	48 hours	4 days
<30 Dabigatran Contraindicated	2-5 days	>5 days

Timing for Stopping Warfarin and Antiplatelet Agents Preoperatively

	Time in days
Warfarin	4
Aspirin	7-10 (4-5 50% effect)
Clopidogrel	7-10
NSAIDs	2-10 (depends on t _{1/2})