

Managing Patients who are taking New Oral Anticoagulant Drugs (Factor Xa and Direct Thrombin Inhibitors) and undergoing dental treatment in Primary Care

General guidelines

New oral anticoagulant drugs have been developed and approved for general use in the UK. These drugs are prescribed for atrial fibrillation, and short term prevention of deep venous thrombosis. It is anticipated that they will replace Warfarin as the anticoagulant of choice. They differ from Warfarin in that regular monitoring of coagulation is not undertaken (i.e. no INR card) and at present no reversal agents are available.

Drugs currently available:

Pradaxa™ Dabigatran etexilate
Xarelto™ Rivaroxaban
Eliquis™ Apixaban

Drug interactions

The list of drug interactions on this guidance is not comprehensive and practitioners are advised to check a source such as the BNF.

www.medicinescomplete.com

However, common drugs that dentists may prescribe which can cause interactions are as follows:

- **Contra-indicated drugs**
Other anticoagulants - Clopidogrel, Dalteparin, Enoxaparin etc
- **Potentiating drugs**
Aspirin
Non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs
Clarithromycin
- **Reduced efficacy**
Carbamazepine

Please note that as the use of this group of drugs becomes more widespread additional interactions may be discovered.

The following procedures will not be affected by any of these drugs:

- Prosthodontics
- Conservation
- Endodontics
- Hygiene Phase therapy

The adjacent flow chart should be followed when planning the following treatment:

- Extractions
- Minor Oral Surgery
- Periodontal Surgery
- Biopsies

