

Emergent Anticoagulation Reversal

I. PURPOSE:

The purpose of these instructions is to provide guidelines for the reversal of or management of bleeding with anticoagulants. The following procedures/guidelines have been approved by the Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee to promote the safe and effective use of the anticoagulation agents listed below:

II. GUIDELINES:

A. Correction of Supratherapeutic Anticoagulation with Warfarin

Management of warfarin reversal and bleeding events is summarized below:

- 1. Management of life-threatening bleeds in patients on warfarin in the ED
 - a. KCentra (4-factor PCC) is first line unless otherwise contraindicated
 - b. Each dose of KCentra (4-factor PCC) will be rounded to the nearest vial size
 - c. The KCentra dosing and administration information is in Appendix B
 - d. The responsibility of the clinical provider (MD, PA, NPP)
 - i. Ensure patient is on warfarin
 - ii. Ensure INR is obtained
 - iii. Administration of KCentra should not be delayed for INR results
 - e. The responsibility of the nurse:
 - i. Prepare the factor product based upon package insert instructions (Appendix B)
 - ii. Administer the product within one hour of preparation
 - iii. Inform the ED Pharmacist/Coag pharmacist on call:
 - 1. Patient's name and MRN
 - 2. Date and time of administration
 - 3. Actual dose administered
 - f. The responsibility of the ED pharmacist/Coag pharmacist
 - i. Continuous monitoring of appropriateness of KCentra (4-factor PCC) use in the ED
 - ii. Ensure patient is charged appropriately
 - iii. Report to the Medication Safety Committee



TABLE 1: MANAGEMENT OF WARFARIN RELATED BLEEDING EVENTS

INR	Bleeding	Risk Factors for Bleeding	Intervention	Monitoring
Supratherapeutic, but < 4.5	No	No/Yes	Lower or omit next VKA dose (s), reduce subsequent dose (s)	Recheck INR the next day
4.5-10.0	No	No/Yes	Omit next VKA dose(s), reduce subsequent dose(s)	Recheck INR the next day
> 10	No	No/Yes	Vitamin K 1.25-2.5 mg PO* Omit next VKA dose (s); reduce subsequent dose(s)	Recheck INR the next day
Non-life threatening major bleed or surgery/procedure requiring emergent warfarin reversal			Vitamin K 5 -10 mg IV + KCentra (4- factor PCC) (stocked in Pharmacy) INR 2.0-3.9: KCentra 25 units/kg x 1 (Max 2500 units) INR 4.0-6.0: KCentra 35 units/kg x 1 (Max 3500 units) INR > 6.0: KCentra 50 units/kg x 1 (Max 5000 units)	Recheck INR 10-30 minutes after 4-factor PCC administration. Due to short half-life of PCC, check INR q6hrs for 24 hours
Serious, life threatening bleed at ANY INR in the ED	Yes		Vitamin K 10 mg IV + KCentra (4-factor PCC) (stocked in Pharmacy) INR 2.0-3.9: KCentra 25 units/kg x 1 (Max 2500 units) INR 4.0-6.0 or <u>unknown</u> : KCentra 35 units/kg x 1 (Max 3500 units) INR > 6.0: KCentra 50 units/kg x 1 (Max 5000 units) *SEE KCENTRA DOSING GUIDELINES AVAILABLE IN APPENDIX B*	Recheck INR 10-30 minutes after 4-factor PCC administration. Due to short half-life of PCC, check INR q6hrs for 24 hours

KCentra Package Insert, CSL Behring, 2013

Witt. J Thromb Thrombolysis (2016) 41:187–205

* If patient is unable to tolerate PO, Vitamin K via IV route may be substituted for PO above

- 1. Additional Information about Warfarin Reversal
 - a. Oral vitamin K is preferred for patients without severe bleeding.
 - b. IV vitamin K should be ordered only if patient has life threatening bleeding, or needs an emergent procedure, where a shorter onset of anticoagulation reversal may be required.
 - c. Subcutaneous or intramuscular doses are not recommended as routine care.
 - d. Full effect of vitamin K on warfarin reversal occurs approximately 24 hours after administration. Partial effects may be seen in 6-12 hours.
 - e. Doses of vitamin K greater than 10 mg are excessive and do not reverse anticoagulation more quickly.



B. Unfractionated Heparin (UFH)

- 1. Protamine sulfate is used to reverse the anticoagulant effect of heparin.
 - a. Increased risk of hypersensitivity reaction, including anaphylaxis, in patients with a fish allergy or prior exposure to protamine.
 - b. Pre-medicate with corticosteroids and antihistamines if at risk for protamine allergy.
 - 1. Hydrocortisone 50-100 mg IV x 1 over 15 minutes
 - 2. Diphenhydramine 50 mg IV/PO x1
- 2. Dose calculation
 - a. 1 mg of protamine neutralizes approximately 100 units of UFH
 - b. Use only the last 3 hours prior to reversal when considering the total amount of heparin administered to patient, due to the short half-life of UFH. If the patient is on a continuous infusion, calculate the total amount administered over the past three hours prior to reversal. If the patient is receiving SQ heparin, calculate the total amount administered within the past 3 hour prior to reversal only.
 - c. Maximum single protamine dose is 50 mg
- 3. Administration
 - a. IV heparin reversal
 - i. Administer protamine IV with maximum infusion rate of 5 mg/min to prevent hypotension and bradycardia.
 - b. SC heparin reversal
 - ii. Administer bolus dose of protamine 25 mg and infuse remaining dose via intravenous infusion over 8 hours.
- 4. Monitor aPTT starting 5-15 minutes after protamine infusion.
 - a. Onset of reversal effect is seen 5 minutes after administration
 - b. Duration of reversal activity is approximately 2 hours.
 - c. Multiple protamine doses may be required if bleeding or elevation of aPTT level persists.

C. Low-Molecular Weight Heparin (LMWH)

- 1. Protamine sulfate may be used as a partial reversal agent (neutralizes approximately 60% of LMWH's antifactor Xa activity).
- 2. Increased risk of hypersensitivity reaction, including anaphylaxis, in patients with a fish allergy or prior exposure to protamine.
 - a. Premedicate with corticosteroids and antihistamines if at risk for protamine allergy.
- 3. Dose Calculation
 - a. If last dose of LMWH was given in previous 8 hours, give 1 mg protamine for every 1 mg (or 100 units) of LMWH. Maximum total dose of protamine is 50 mg.
 - b. If the last dose of LMWH was given in the previous 8-12 hours, give 0.5 mg protamine for every 1 mg (or 100 units) of LMWH. Max single dose of protamine is 50 mg.
 - c. If the last dose of LMWH was given more than 12 hours earlier:
 - i. Protamine is not recommended and an alternative agent may be needed to obtain hemostasis. If the patient requires other pharmacologic therapy to manage hemorrhagic complications, a Hematology/Coagulation consult is recommended.
- 4. Administration
 - a. Maximum protamine sulfate IV infusion rate is 5 mg/min to prevent hypotension and bradycardia.
 - b. Repeat dose 0.5 mg protamine for every 1 mg (or 100 units) of LMWH if bleeding continues or elevated anti-factor Xa activity level after 2-4 hours.

D. Intravenous Direct Thrombin Inhibitors (DTIs): Argatroban, Bivalirudin, Lepirudin



There is no specific reversal agent or pharmacologic antidote. Due to the short half-life of these agents (Argatroban 40-50 min; Bivalirudin 25 min; Lepirudin 80 min), management of hemorrhagic complications is primarily supportive and interruption of treatment will be sufficient to reverse the anticoagulant effect. If patients require pharmacologic therapy to manage hemorrhagic complications, a Hematology/Coagulation consult is advised. Management of intravenous direct thrombin inhibitor related bleeding events is summarized below:

TABLE 2: MANAGEMENT OF INTRAVENOUS DIRECT THROMBIN INHIBITOR RELATED BLEEDING EVENTS

Mild	Delay next dose or discontinue IV direct thrombin inhibitor.			
Moderate	 Consider any of the following based on bleeding severity: Symptomatic treatment Mechanical compression Surgical intervention Fluid replacement and hemodynamic support Blood product transfusion If hemostasis is not achieved with the strategies outlined above, consider the administration of 2-4 units of fresh frozen plasma (FFP). A Hematology/ Coagulation consult should be considered for further recommendations. 			
Severe or Life- threatening	 No agent has been shown to successfully reverse the anticoagulant effects of intravenous DTIs or treat DTI-related bleeding events. However, the interventions below may be considered. A Hematology/Coagulation consult should be obtained after the following: Administer KCentra (4-factor PCC) 50 units/kg IV (max dose 5000 units) x 1 See dosing guide in Appendix B. STOCKED IN PHARMACY For persistent refractory bleeding, pursue formal Heme/Coag consult. To investigate potential causes of the bleeding event, obtain the following: serum creatinine, PT, aPTT, thrombin clotting time (TCT), CBC (platelets). 			

E. Oral Direct Thrombin Inhibitors: Dabigatran



Idarucizumab (Praxbind^{*}) is FDA approved to reverse the anticoagulant effects of dabigatran for emergency surgery/urgent procedures or in life-threatening or uncontrolled bleeding. Additionally, hemodialysis is effective at removing approximately 60% of dabigatran. If patients require pharmacologic therapy to manage hemorrhagic complications, a Hematology/Coagulation consult is advised. Management of dabigatran related bleeding events is summarized below:

TABLE 3: MANAGEMENT OF DABIGATRAN RELATED BLEEDING EVENTS

Bleeding Severity	Management Recommendations				
Mild	Delay next dose or discontinue dabigatran. Consider any of the following based on bleeding severity: • Symptomatic treatment Mechanical compression Surgical intervention • Fluid replacement and hemodynamic support • Blood product transfusion • Oral activated charcoal (if previous dose ingested within 2 hours);Dose: Liquid charcoal with sorbitol 50 g PO x 1 dose If hemostasis is not achieved with the strategies outlined above, consider the administration of 2-4 units of fresh frozen plasma (FFP). Obtain a Hematology/Coagulation consult for further recommendations.				
Moderate					
Severe or Life- threatening or emergency surgery/urgent procedures	 Consider any of the strategies outlined above based on bleeding severity. In the setting of acute renal failure, initiation of hemodialysis may be considered for the purpose of facilitating drug elimination. Idarucizumab (Praxbind) is used to reverse the coagulant effects of dabigatran. A Hematology/Coagulation consult should be obtained after the following: Administer idarucizumab (Praxbind) 5 g (2 vials) IV x 1 administered as 2 consecutive IV bolus injections (2.5 g each) or as 2 consecutive IV infusions (2.5 g each) STOCKED IN ED PYXIS and PHARMACY For persistent refractory bleeding, pursue formal Heme/Coag consult. To investigate potential causes of the bleeding event, obtain the following: serum creatinine, PT, aPTT, thrombin clotting time (TCT), Dabigatran level (send out), CBC. 				

2. van Ryn. Thromb Haemost. 2010 Jun;103(6):1116-27

F. Factor Xa Inhibitors: Apixaban, Rivaroxaban, Edoxaban, Betrixaban, Fondaparinux

Coagulation factor Xa (Andexxa[®]) is FDA approved to reverse the anticoagulant effects of **apixaban and rivaroxaban** for patients with life-threatening or uncontrolled bleeding. Additionally, rivaroxaban and apixaban are highly protein bound



and are not dialyzable. At UNCMC, Andexxa[®] is formulary restricted for life-threatening bleeding due to intracranial hemorrhage while on apixaban or rivaroxban with approval by the Neurocritical Care Attending. If patients require Andexxa[®] to manage hemorrhagic complications, a Hematology/Coagulation consult is advised.

Furthermore, there is no specific reversal agent or pharmacologic antidote for edoxaban, betrixaban, or fondaparinux. Thus, management of hemorrhagic complications is primarily supportive. If patients require pharmacologic therapy to manage hemorrhagic complications, a Hematology/Coagulation consult is advised. Management of Factor Xa inhibitor-related bleeding events is summarized below:

Bleeding Severity	gement Recommendations				
Mild	Delay next dose or discontinue Factor Xa inhibitor.				
Moderate	 Consider any of the following based on bleeding severity: Symptomatic treatment Mechanical compression Surgical intervention Fluid replacement and hemodynamic support Blood product transfusion Oral activated charcoal for apixaban or rivaroxaban (if previous dose ingested within 2 hours) Dose: Liquid charcoal with sorbitol 50 g PO x 1 dose If hemostasis is not achieved with the strategies outlined above, proceed to the steps below and obtain a Hematology/Coagulation consult for further recommendations. 				
Severe or Life- threatening bleed from <u>Edoxaban, Betrixaban,</u> or <u>Fondaparinux</u>	 Consider any of the strategies outlined above based on bleeding severity. No agent currently available in the US has been shown to successfully reverse the anticoagulant effects of Factor Xa inhibitor-related bleeding events from edoxaban, betrixaban, or fondaparinux. However, the strategy below may be considered based on the currently available evidence. Therefore, the pharmacologic interventions below may be considered, but are not required in the management of Factor Xa inhibitor-related bleeding. A Hematology/Coagulation consult should be obtained after the following: 1) Administer KCentra (4-factor PCC) 50 units/kg IV x 1 (max dose 5000 units) a. See dosing guide in Appendix B. STOCKED IN PHARMACY 2) Emergent surgery or urgent procedure a. Administer KCentra (4-factor PCC) 50 units/kg IV x 1 (max dose 5000 units) b. See dosing guide in Appendix B. STOCKED IN PHARMACY 3) For persistent refractory bleeding, pursue formal Heme/Coag consult. 4) To investigate potential causes of the bleeding event, obtain the following: serum creatinine, CBC, PT, aPTT, corresponding anticoagulant drug level (e.g. edoxaban level, fonadaparinux level, or betrixaban level) as send out lab. 5) If PT prolonged, administer vitamin K 10mg IV x one dose (as there may be vitamin K deficiency present). 				

TABLE 4: MANAGEMENT OF FACTOR Xa INHIBITOR RELATED BLEEDING EVENTS



	a specific reversal agent that is FDA approved for only apixaban or rivaroxaban severe or life-threatening bleeding. Due to limited evidence in other populations, UNCMC will formulary restrict Andexxa® to the reversal of apixaban or rivaroxaban related <u>intracranial hemorrhage</u> at the <u>discretion and approval</u> by the Neurocritical Care Attendings
Severe or Life- threatening bleed from <u>Apixaban</u> or <u>Rivaroxaban</u>	 Intracranial Hemorrhage Andexxa® per Neurocritical Care Attending



G. Antiplatelet agents that irreversibly inhibit platelet function: aspirin, clopidrogel, prasugrel Antiplatelet agents that reversibly inhibit platelet function: dipyridamole, NSAIDs, ticagrelor Duration of platelet inhibition by antiplatelet agents that irreversibly inhibit platelet function is not dependent on the agents' half-life, but may persist for 5-7 days. Please utilize the chart below as a general guide for interpreting the peak and duration of action of these agents.

Agent	Time to Maximum Antiplatelet Effect	Elimination Half- Life	Notes		
Aspirin	30 min	15-30 min	Antiplatelet effects begin within one hour of dose and persist for at least 4 days after stopping therapy.		
Clopidogrel (Plavix)	3-7 days	8 hours	More rapid inhibition of platelet function is achieved with loading doses; antiplatelet effect lasts up to 10 days after stopping therapy.		
Prasugrel (Effient)	30 min	7 hours	Antiplatelet effect lasts 5-7 days after stopping therapy.		
Ticagrelor Brilinta)	1.5 hours	7 hours	Antiplatelet effects are decreased to 30% activity after 2.5 days.		
Ticlopidine (Ticlid)	1-3 hours	24-36 hours	Antiplatelet effect lasts 5-7 days after stopping therapy.		
Table adapted from Ortel TL. Blood 2012 Dec 6; 120(24):4699-705.					

- 1. Management of antiplatelet agent associated bleeding events:
 - a. There are no specific reversal agents for antiplatelet agents.
 - b. Treatment of bleeding involves general hemostatic measures.
 - c. Discontinuation of antiplatelet agents due to a bleeding event must be weighed against the patient's risk of arterial thrombosis. The risk of thrombosis is particularly high within 1 month of receiving a bare metal coronary stent and within 3 months of receiving a drug eluting coronary stent. Premature cessation of dual anti-platelet therapy in these situations can lead to stent thrombosis which can potentially be fatal.
 - d. Antiplatelet agents should be reinstated as soon as hemostasis is obtained
 - e. Platelet infusion may be considered as additional measure for severe critical bleeds, or prevention of bleeds before emergency surgery, but it may confer a risk of arterial thrombosis.
 - f. DDAVP is likely not a safe option, as it can lead to arterial vasospasm.
 - g. Hematology/Coagulation Consult Service may be consulted if a multi-disciplinary risk versus benefit evaluation is required.



III. REFERENCES:

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APPENDIX A: Summary of Anticoagulation Reversal Recommendations

Drug	Elimination Half-Life	Removed by Dialysis	Summary of emergent reversal for life-threatening bleeding
Apixaban (Eliquis)	12 hours (longer in renal impairment)	No	 If ingested within 2 hours, give activated charcoal 1 g/kg (max 50 g) Administer Andexxa® (dosing in Appendix B) for intracranial hemorrhage Administer KCentra® (4-factor PCC) 50 units/kg x1 at 3 units/kg/min (max dose 5000 units) Monitor PT/INR and anti-Factor Xa activity level (send-out lab) to confirm reversal
Argatroban	40-50 minutes	20%	 Turn off infusion Monitor aPTT/TCT to confirm clearance Consider KCentra[®] (4-factor PCC) 50 units/kg x1 at 3 units/kg/min (max dose 5000 units)
Betrixaban (Bevyxxa)	19 to 27 hours	No	 If ingested within 2 hours, give activated charcoal 1 g/kg (max 50 g) Administer KCentra[®] (4-factor PCC) 50 units/kg x1 at 3 units/kg/min (max dose 5000 units) Monitor PT/INR and anti-Factor Xa activity level (send-out lab) to confirm reversal
Bivalirudin (Angiomax)	25 minutes (up to 1 hr in severe renal impairment)	25%	 Turn off infusion Monitor aPTT/TCT to confirm clearance Consider KCentra[®] (4-factor PCC) 50 units/kg x1 at 3 units/kg/min (max dose 5000 units)
Dabigatran (Pradaxa)	14 hours (up to 34 hrs in severe renal impairment)	62-68%	 If ingested within 2 hours, give activated charcoal 1g/kg (max 50 g) Consider idarucizumab (Praxbind) 5 g IV x 1 administered as 2 consecutive IV bolus injections (2.5 g each) or as 2 consecutive IV infusion (2.5 g each)
Edoxaban (Savaysa)	10 to 14 hours (longer in renal impairment)	No	 If ingested within 2 hours, give activated charcoal 1 g/kg (max 50 g) Administer KCentra[®] (4-factor PCC) 50 units/kg x1 at 3 units/kg/min (max dose 5000 units) Monitor PT/INR and anti-Factor Xa activity level (send-out lab) to confirm reversal
Enoxaparin (Lovenox)	3-5 hours (longer in severe renal impairment)	20%	 Protamine partially reverses the anticoagulant effect of LMWHs (~ 60%). Administer protamine: (do not exceed rate 5 mg/min, max dose 50 mg) If last dose was < 8 hours PTA: For each 1 mg of enoxaparin, administer 1 mg of protamine If last dose was 8-12 hours PTA: For each 1 mg of enoxaparin, administer 0.5 mg protamine If last dose was >12 hours PTA: Protamine is unlikely to be beneficial For refractory or life threatening bleeding: Administer KCentra[®] (4-factor PCC) 50 units/kg x1 at 3 units/kg/min (max dose 5000 units) Monitor anti Factor Xa activity level to confirm reversal
Fondaparinux (Arixtra)	17-21 hours (significantly longer in renal impairment)	No	 Administer KCentra[®] (4-factor PCC) 50 units/kg x1 at 3 units/kg/min (max dose 5000 units) Monitor aPTT/anti Factor Xa activity level (send-out lab) to confirm reversal
Heparin	30-90 minutes (dose-dependent)	partial	 Protamine neutralizes heparin Administer protamine: For each 100 units of heparin, administer 1 mg of protamine Do not exceed rate of 5 mg/min, max dose is 50 mg



-			PHARMACY SE		
Drug	Elimination	Removed by	Summary of emergent reversal for life-		
	Half-Life	Dialysis	threatening bleeding		
Diversidan	Health: 5-9 hrs Elderly: 11-13 hrs	No	 If ingested within 2 hours, give activated charcoal 1g/kg (max 50 g) Administer KCentra[®] (4-factor PCC) 50 units/kg x1 at 3 		
Rivaroxaban	(longer in		units/kg/min, (max dose 5000 units)		
(Xarelto) renal impairment)			 Administer Andexxa[®] (dosing in Appendix B) for intracranial hemorrhage 		
			 Monitor PT/INR and anti-Factor Xa activity level (send-out labs) to confirm reversal 		
	INR	Clinical Setting	Therapeutic Options		
	INR < 4.5	No bleeding	Hold warfarin until INR in therapeutic range		
		Rapid reversal	Hold warfarin		
		required	Consider vitamin K 2.5 mg PO*		
	INR 4.5 – 10	No bleeding	Hold warfarin until INR in therapeutic range		
		Rapid reversal	Hold warfarin		
		required	Give vitamin K 2.5 - 5 mg PO*		
	INR > 10	No bleeding	Hold warfarin until INR in therapeutic range		
			Consider vitamin K 1.25-2.5 mg PO*		
		Rapid reversal	Hold warfarin		
Warfarin		required	Give vitamin K 2.5-5 mg IV		
Warranni	Any INR	Non-life	Hold warfarin		
(Coumadin,		threatening	Give vitamin K 5-10 mg IV infusion over 30 minutes		
Jantoven)		major bleed or	Give KCentra (4-factor PCC)		
· · · · · · ·		surgery/proced	INR 2.0 – 3.9 : 25 units/kg (max 2500 units)		
		ure requiring	INR 4.0 – 6.0 : 35 units/kg (max 3500 units)		
		emergent	INR > 6.0 : 50 units/kg (max 5000 units)		
		warfarin			
		reversal			
	Any INR	Serious or life	Hold warfarin		
		threatening	Give vitamin K 10 mg IV infusion over 30 minutes		
		bleeding	Give KCentra (4-factor PCC)		
			INR unknown: 35 units/kg (max 3500 units)		
			INR 1.5 – 6.0: 35 units/kg (max 3500 units)		
			INR > 6.0 : 50 units/kg (max 5000 units)		
			Repeat x 2 q15mins prn if INR remains > 1.5		

If patient is unable to tolerate PO vitamin K, IV route may be substituted



APPENDIX B: Dosing for factor Xa reversal agents

KCentra [®] (4-factor PCC)		For INR 2-3.9		For INR 4-6 or	For INR > 6.0 or DOA	
		(25 units/kg)		unknown	therapy	
				(35 units/kg)	(50 units/kg)	
	30-49 kg	0-49 kg 1000 units		1500 units	2000 units	
50-69 kg		1500 units		2000 units	3000 units	
70-89 kg				3000 units	4000 units	
0		2500 units	5	3500 units	5000 units	
1. ROUND ALL DO	DSES TO T	HE NEAREST WH	IOLE NUN	IBER OF VIALS		
2. The number of	units in e	ach vial is displa	yed on th	e side of the produc	ct's packaging	
	Α	ndexxa® (coagul	ation fac	tor Xa) Dosing		
FXa Inhibitor		Last Dose		Timing of FXa inhibitor last dose		
	L	ast Dose	< 8 ho	urs or unknown	8-18 hours	
Apixaban		<u><</u> 5 mg		Low dose		
	> 5 mg or unknown			High dose		
Арілаван	× 5 m				LOW DOSE	
-		<u><</u> 10 mg		Low dose	Low dose	
Rivaroxaban		-		Low dose High dose	Low dose	
Rivaroxaban	> 10 m	≤ 10 mg ng or unknown		High dose	Low dose 2 hours (4 mg/min)	