Improving Anticoagulation Therapy Services

Improving Patient Safety & Quality

Tuesday 15 March 2016    Hallam Conference Centre, London

Chaired by:
Nicky Fleming
Chair
Anticoagulation in Practice (AiP) Society
The conference will open focusing on the patient and on self monitoring and empowering patients following recommendation from NICE on self monitoring which stated that “The evidence shows that greater use of self-monitoring offers clinical and patient benefit and, over time, is likely to result in reductions in heart attacks and strokes caused by blood clots...People on long-term anticoagulation need to monitor their blood regularly to make sure they are taking the right dose of their drug. Because self-monitoring provides almost instant results, self-monitoring can reduce anxiety, provide a sense of control for the patient and remove the need to frequently attend clinics or hospitals. The Committee also heard that self-monitoring allows people to visit, or act as a carer for, other family members, without having to worry about attending testing appointments.” Professor Carole Longson, NICE Health Technology Evaluation Centre Director

The conference will continue with an update on monitoring adherence to the revised AF guidelines, and more recently the Atrial fibrillation: treatment and management Quality Standard which was published on the 9th July 2015 by NICE. NICE has recommended that anticoagulants should be offered instead of aspirin for stroke prevention. NICE stated that offering patients anticoagulants could help prevent thousands of strokes and premature deaths from atrial fibrillation (AF), according to NICE. Around 800,000 people in England are known to be at risk of stroke from AF. Of these, half are taking anticoagulants, and a third are currently taking aspirin. However, two-thirds of people admitted to a hospital with a stroke caused by AF are not taking recommended anticoagulants. NICE estimates that with effective detection and protection with anticoagulant drugs, 7,000 strokes and 2,000 premature deaths could be avoided each year.

The session will look out how you can improve effective detection and management of these patients in your service. Dr Matthew Fay, a GP and specialist member of the committee that developed the standard, said: “The ineffectiveness of aspirin and the need to remove it from the AF patient pathway receives a much needed, and rare, negative statement. This should provide the impetus to those who still speculate on the value of aspirin from historic practice to have the discussion with their patients about the benefits of anticoagulation hopefully before, and not after a devastating stroke event.” NICE July 2015

100% of the delegates at our last anticoagulation therapy conference would recommend this conference.

Follow the conference on twitter #Anticoagulation
10.00 Chairman’s Introduction & Welcoming Address: Improving Anticoagulation Therapy: National Update
Nicky Fleming Chair Anticoagulation in Practice (AiP) Society

10.15 Warfarin and NOAC monitoring
Speaker to be confirmed
- warfarin and NOAC monitoring
- accountability, competence and risk assessment
- the impact on patient understanding and warfarin control

10.40 EXTENDED SESSION: Monitoring Progress against the 2015 NICE Quality Standard on Atrial Fibrillation
Speaker to be confirmed
- early intervention and identification of patients with Atrial Fibrillation
- monitoring progress against the July 2015 Quality Standard: ensuring every patient is offered NOAC’s, Anticoagulation options, control and self monitoring
- ensuring each patient has a clear management plan which takes into account their personal preferences and the clinician’s view of the evidence that has been clearly laid out in the guideline

11.25 Question & answers followed by tea & exhibition at 11.35

12.00 Atrial Fibrillation (AF) Service Transformation Programme in Greater Manchester: Implementing the National Guidance
Jane Macdonald
Health & Implementation Team
Greater Manchester Academic Health Science Network
- delivering key improvements on the AF pathway; delivering a reduction in AF related strokes, improving and saving patient lives (a minimum of 365 avoidable stroke deaths per year) which will subsequently equate to a substantial fall in A/E & non-elective admissions
- implications for anticoagulation therapy services
- making improvements on the AF pathway from appropriate prevalence attainment, though to innovations in diagnostics, optimising medicines management, and promoting self-care and self-management models

12.30 ‘Complex anticoagulation issues’: Anticoagulation in the frail, restarting anticoagulation after a bleed, oral anticoagulants combined with anti-platelet drugs
Gillian Lowe
Consultant in Haemostasis and Thrombosis
University Hospital Birmingham
- managing complex anticoagulation issues
- anticoagulation in the frail elderly
- restarting anticoagulation after a bleed, oral anticoagulants combined with anti-platelet drugs

13.00 Question & answers followed by lunch & exhibition at 13.10

14.00 Improving patient safety and experience through new oral anticoagulants
Dr Rhona Maclean
Consultant Haematologist
Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
- new treatments: risk v benefit
- managing the new anticoagulants in your service
- screening and working with patients and patient education

14.30 Reducing Medication Errors and ensuring patients receive oral anticoagulation therapy within safe levels
Speaker to be confirmed
- focusing on high risk medicines including anticoagulation therapy
- ensuring patients receive oral anticoagulation therapy within safe levels
- measuring and monitoring the reliability of the anticoagulation process: learning from errors and implementing error reduction strategies

15.00 Anticoagulation Matters: Involving and empowering patients in self monitoring
Professor Beverley Hunt
Professor of Thrombosis & Haemostasis
King’s College and Founder & Medical Director Thrombosis UK
The Thrombosis Charity
- learning through personal journeys of anticoagulation therapy
- self monitoring: the impact on quality of life
- involving patients as partners: key issues and tips for success

15.30 Question & answers followed by tea & exhibition at 15.40

16.05 EXTENDED SESSION: Developing your skills in root cause analysis
Kate Hill
Solicitor and Senior Trainer
InPractice and RadcliffeLeBrasseur Solicitors
- developing your skills in root cause analysis
- when you should undertake a root cause analysis
- a step by step guide to an effective RCA
- case study: an RCA of an anticoagulation incident

17.05 Question & answers followed by close 17.15
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