

Anticoagulation Audit Recommendations

For community pharmacy

- Proactively discuss the anticoagulant medicine with the patient or representative to ensure safe and effective use, including the signs of over-anticoagulation and the need to check with a doctor or pharmacist prior to starting any OTC medicines.
- Contact the GP practice about:
 - all patients prescribed an NSAID and an oral anticoagulant
 - all patients prescribed an antiplatelet and an oral anticoagulant without GI protection unless the patient has been referred in the previous 6 months
- Patients who report being overdue international normalisation ratio (INR) blood monitoring should be referred to their GP practice.
- If known INR results should be recorded in the patient medication records (PMR) with dates and details of where the result was obtained.
- Educate all patients regarding the importance of carrying yellow anticoagulant cards and offer all patients a card at the point of dispensing.
- Record the information provided to patients, and all referrals in the PMR.
- Ensure there is a supply of yellow anticoagulant cards in the pharmacy, and that the pharmacy team is aware of how to order more when required.
- Ensure all patients have access to information and advice so they can fully understand how to take their anticoagulation medicine, particularly [inclusion health groups](#) who have multiple risk factors for poor health and experience poor access to health and care services. Not all patients have equal awareness, understanding and access to primary care and pharmacy teams have an important role in ensuring the individually tailored advice is provided. Pharmacy teams should be mindful of communication preferences for patients with disabilities or when English is not their first language as outlined in the [accessible information standard](#).