

Anticoagulation Therapy Management

Policy & Procedure

Policy:

Effective individualized therapy will be provided for residents receiving anticoagulant therapy, to reduce the risk of adverse drug reactions (ADRs).

Procedure:

1. The physician or physician extender is responsible for selecting the anticoagulant agent, protocol for ordering, starting dose, laboratory measures to monitor response, and dose adjustment based on lab parameters.
2. The pharmacist will review anticoagulation orders during Medication Regimen Review and notify the facility and/or the physician of irregularities per standard of practice.
3. The licensed nurses and/or IDT team will coordinate resident teaching as needed.
4. The licensed nurse will review physician ordered lab results to determine if lab values are in therapeutic ranges. Lab orders will remain in place per standards of practice while the resident receives anticoagulant therapy.
5. The licensed nurse will notify the physician of critical and abnormal lab values per facility protocol.
6. Changes in dosage will be occur per standard practice; obtain the new physician order and discontinue current anticoagulant therapy.
7. Care plans will reflect assessment, observations and interventions to identify and/or assist in preventing negative outcomes related to anticoagulation therapy.
8. Adverse reactions will be reported to the attending physician when identified and documented in the medical record.

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This policy and procedure is not intended to replace the informed judgment of individual physicians, nurses or other clinicians nor is it intended as a statement of prevailing community standards or minimum standards of practice. It is a suggested method and technique for achieving optimal health care, not a minimum standard below which residents necessarily would be placed at risk.