



## **Aneurin Bevan University Health Board**

### **Pathway for Diagnosis and Management of Deep Vein Thrombosis (DVT)**

The DVT service is a nurse led service with support from consultant haematologists. It is based on 3 sites within ABUHB – Royal Gwent Hospital, Nevill Hall Hospital, and Ysbty Ystrad Fawr. The contact details for all sites are :

<b>RGH</b>	<b>01633 238171</b>
<b>NHH</b>	<b>01873 732192</b>
<b>YYF</b>	<b>01443 802638</b>

**To be eligible for the ambulatory DVT pathway, patients must be:**

- 18yrs or over
- Registered with a local GP
- Suitable for ambulatory care with good mobility
- Patients must be medically stable with no concurrent acute illnesses which may require admission
- Patients must be concordant with treatment

#### **Exclusion Criteria (refer directly to on-call medical team)**

- Symptoms of > 6 weeks – consider referral to vascular team
- Bilateral symptoms – direct to MAU
- < 18yrs of age
- Suspicion of pulmonary embolism
- Suspicion of cardiac chest pain
- Underlying medical conditions requiring admission
- Gastro-intestinal , genitourinary or intra-cranial bleed within last 4 weeks
- Known liver disease
- Renal Insufficiency (creatinine > 200micromol/l)
- Inherited bleeding disorder
- Thrombocytopenia (platelet count < 100 x 10<sup>9</sup>/l)
- **Pregnancy or within 6 weeks post partum – refer to obstetrics directly**

### Diagnostic Algorithm for Suspected DVT

**All patients should have a Wells score completed by the referring doctor. This is an integral part of the referral along with patient demographics and contact details**

#### Pre-test probability assessment

An initial Wells Score will be used to risk stratify the patient as *likely* or *unlikely* to have a DVT in accordance with the NICE Clinical Guideline 144 June 2012 “Venous thromboembolic diseases: the management of venous thromboembolic diseases”.

Clinical feature	Points
Active cancer (treatment ongoing, within 6 months, or palliative)	1
Paralysis, paresis or recent plaster immobilization of the lower extremities	1
Recently bedridden for > 3 days or more or major surgery < 12 weeks	1
Localized tenderness along the distribution of the deep venous system	1
Entire leg swollen	1
Calf swelling > 3 cm compared to the asymptomatic side (measure 10 cm below tibial tuberosity)	1
Pitting oedema confined to the symptomatic leg	1
Dilated (non-varicose) superficial veins in symptomatic leg	1
Previously DVT or PE	1
Alternative diagnosis* (as likely or more than that of DVT) – See below	-2
<b>DVT likely</b>	<b>2 points or more</b>
<b>DVT unlikely</b>	<b>1 point or less</b>

#### \*Alternative diagnoses to consider

Cellulitis	Torn gastrocnemius (calf) muscle
Baker’s cyst	Acute arterial ischaemia
Haematoma	Compartment syndrome
Fracture	Superficial thrombophlebitis
Arthritis	Post thrombotic syndrome
Lymphoedema	Hypoproteinaemia (e.g. cirrhosis, nephrotic syndrome)

### **D-Dimer**

A d-dimer will be measured in those patients with an “unlikely” Well’s score. Its utility is in its NEGATIVE predictive value in conjunction with a clinical score.

However, D-dimer cannot be used as part of the diagnostic algorithm in patients who have already received a dose of low molecular weight heparin (risk of false negative results) and therefore these patients will undergo Doppler ultrasound irrespective of their Well’s score.

Obstetric patients and patients who have recently undergone surgery/been acutely unwell are also excluded in view of the false positives seen in these groups of patients.

### **Ultrasound**

In accordance with Nice CG144 patients whose ultrasound scan will be delayed by > 4hrs will need to be given a treatment dose of LMWH or rivaroxaban if suitable. Patients referred to the DVT service will undergo a full leg Doppler ultrasound ideally within 48 hrs.

### **DVT not identified**

Patients with a ‘DVT unlikely’ Wells score will be discharged from the DVT service and the result will be sent to the referring doctor.

Patients with a ‘DVT likely’ Wells score will have a D-dimer performed. If this is negative, the patient will be discharged from the DVT service and the result sent to the referring doctor. If the result is positive, the patient will undergo a further Doppler USS at one week. If this is negative, the patient will be discharged from the DVT service and the result sent to the referring doctor.

### **DVT Confirmed**

- These patients will be reviewed by the Anticoagulation Nurse specialist
- Full blood screen including FBC, U+E/eGFR, LFT, Baseline coagulation screen and INR, Bone profile
- Urine dipstick (and Pregnancy test in women of child bearing age)

### **Unprovoked DVT:**

The following investigations are required:

- CXR
- Urinalysis
- PSA
- Patients with an UNPROVOKED above knee DVT will be discussed weekly with the haematology team and further imaging organised as per NICE if deemed appropriate

**OUT-PATIENT TREATMENT OF DVT** - Will comprise one of the following:

#### **1. LMWH (minimum 5 days) + warfarin**

- Dalteparin sc according to weight daily until INR > 2 for 2 consecutive days

- Warfarin will be initiated as per the All Wales loading schedule, however elderly / underweight patients will receive lower loading doses

## 2. LMWH as an alternative to warfarin

- All pregnant patients (Dalteparin 100 IU/kg twice daily – use booking weight)
- Patients with an underlying malignancy will be considered for continuing LMWH for 6 months rather than warfarin. This carries a similar risk of bleeding but halves recurrences
- Cancer related thrombosis patients should be directly referred to Dr Simon Noble, Palliative Care Physician, Dr Sarah Lewis, or Dr Jessica Chilcott

## 3. Apixaban as an alternative to warfarin

- Apixaban 10mg bd for 7 days
- Apixaban 5mg bd for remainder of treatment (11 weeks)

## 4. Rivaroxaban as an alternative to warfarin

- Rivaroxaban 15mg bd for first 3 weeks
- Rivaroxaban 20mg od subsequent 9 weeks

Patients who have suffered a 1st **precipitated** DVT and only require 3 months anticoagulation will be offered the option of warfarin/ rivaroxaban/apixaban

Patients with poor venous access e.g. history of IVDU will be offered the option of LMWH or rivaroxaban/apixaban

Patients with a history of excessive alcohol consumption, in whom warfarin and INR monitoring will be difficult will be offered the option of LMWH/rivaroxaban/apixaban

## Duration of anticoagulation

Indication	Duration	Follow up
1 <sup>st</sup> idiopathic proximal DVT	≥ 3 months	Thrombosis Clinic
1 <sup>st</sup> precipitated proximal DVT	3 months	*No follow up
1 <sup>st</sup> idiopathic distal DVT	3 months	*No follow up
1 <sup>st</sup> precipitated distal DVT	3 months	*No follow up
Recurrent DVT not on warfarin / sub-therapeutic INR	≥ 3 months	Thrombosis Clinic
Recurrent DVT on warfarin and therapeutic INR	Long-term	Thrombosis Clinic
DVT in patient with active cancer	6 months	Thrombosis Clinic
Upper limb DVT	3 months	Thrombosis Clinic

\*Patients with a family history of DVT / PE will be followed up in Thrombosis Clinic  
If the patient is on an anti-platelet medication a doctor should review whether this is to continue, whilst the patient is on anticoagulation

**Long-term treatment will be *considered* for**

- recurrent thromboses
- patients with an on-going risk factors such as cancer
- a first unprovoked proximal DVT (or PE). The ACCP and BCSH guidelines recommend long-term treatment for unprovoked VTE where there is a low risk of bleeding and where anticoagulant control is good.

These patients should all be referred to a consultant haematologist for review and decision making

This may be felt to be particularly the case:

- **if D-dimers are raised one month after discontinuing anticoagulation**
- **presence of antiphospholipid antibodies**
- **in a male**
- **in those with PTS (post thrombotic syndrome)**

**Compression stockings:**

- All patients with symptomatic proximal DVT (and those with severe symptoms with a distal DVT) will be assessed for below knee compression hosiery and prescribed if there are no contraindications (see below).
- European class 2 (25-32 mm Hg) below knee compression stockings are prescribed.
- Patients should be advised to wear the stocking during the day for two years.
- The patient should be re-measured for new stockings every six months.

**Contra-indications are:**

- Known / suspected peripheral arterial disease or peripheral neuropathy – do not use hosiery if suspected until investigations completed
- Leg oedema or pulmonary oedema from congestive cardiac failure (CCF)
- Slow capillary filling – (pinched nail bed or pad of toe that takes more than 3 seconds to return to normal colour)
- History of intermittent claudication or rest pain
- Known allergies to the components/materials of the stockings
- Diabetes – if there is known / suspected peripheral arterial disease or peripheral neuropathy
- Fragile ‘tissue paper’ skin
- Absent/weak foot pulses
- Cellulitis and/or leg/foot ulceration
- Pressure ulcers to heels or any area of foot or lower leg
- Trophic skin changes (cold, pale, shiny, hairless leg)

### **Suspected upper limb DVT:**

- These patients will all have a Doppler ultrasound examination
- Patients will be considered for anticoagulation or thrombolysis
- ALL patients should be discussed with a vascular surgeon re: thrombolysis
- All patients should have a
  - CXR requesting “thoracic outlet views” and C-spine to look for cervical rib(s)
  - Doppler assessment for thoracic outlet compression
- Recurrence rates for upper limb DVT after anticoagulant treatment for three months are very low and it is likely that prolonged anticoagulation is not required for the majority of patients
- For most patients with upper limb DVT in association with an indwelling central or peripheral venous catheter, the catheter should not be removed if it is functional and there is an ongoing need for the catheter. If the catheter is removed anticoagulant treatment should not be shortened to less than 3 months.

Elastic compression is not used routinely but may be considered for patients who have persistent upper limb oedema and pain.

### **Local Lower Limb Thrombolysis:**

Patients with **established**, extensive, **acute (Symptoms present for <2 weeks)** iliofemoral DVT and no contraindication to thrombolysis will be considered for local thrombolysis under the joint care of the Vascular Surgery, Interventional radiology and Haematology. Suitable patients should be considered early for treatment and discussed urgently with the vascular surgical consultant of the week, Dr Lewis or Dr Anderson (Haematology) or Interventional radiology.

### **References**

NICE clinical guideline 144 (June 2012) Venous thromboembolic diseases: the management of venous thromboembolic diseases and the role of thrombophilia testing. <http://www.nice.org.uk/CG144>

NICE technology assessment (2012) rivaroxaban for the treatment of deep vein thrombosis and prevention of recurrent deep vein thrombosis and pulmonary embolism. <http://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/TA261>

Prandoni P. & Kahn SR. (2009) Post-thrombotic syndrome: prevalence, prognostication and need for progress. British Journal of Haematology. 145. 3. 286-295.

## Nurse Led Ambulatory Care Pathway for Deep Vein Thrombosis

**Patient details:**

addressograph

Date of referral.....  
 Date of attendance.....  
 Time arrived.....  
 GP.....  
 GP Address.....  
 .....  
 Patient contact details.....  
 .....  
 ACNS.....

On call Medical Team

Patient weight

<b>Presenting problem and relevant history including duration of symptoms</b>
<b>Current medications</b>
<b>Allergies</b>

<b>Risk factors</b>		Pregnancy	Refer SJL
Previous VTE		Post partum	Consider DOAC
FH of VTE		COCP or HRT	Consider DOAC
Recent Surgery	Consider DOAC	Cancer	Needs LMWH
Medical IP stay	Consider DOAC	Travel >8hrs	Consider DOAC
POP cast	Consider DOAC	Raised BMI	<b>Warfarin only if &gt;120kg</b>

**Calf/Arm Measurements**

**Left**

**Right**

**Wells pre-test score (tick all that apply)**

	Tick if present	Score
Active cancer (treatment on-going or within 6 months, or palliative)		+1
Paralysis or recent plaster immobilisation of the lower extremities		+1
Recently bedridden for >3 days or major surgery <12 weeks ago		+1
Localised tenderness along the distribution of the deep venous system		+1
Entire leg (calf and thigh) swelling		+1
Calf swelling >3cm compared to the asymptomatic leg (measure 10cm below tibial tuberosity)		+1
Pitting oedema confined to the symptomatic leg		+1
Previous DVT/PE documented		+1
Dilated (non-varicose) superficial veins in symptomatic leg only		+1
Alternative diagnosis (as likely or more than that of DVT)* - see below		-2
<b>TOTAL SCORE:</b>		
<b>DVT LIKELY:</b>		>2
<b>DVT UNLIKELY:</b>		<1

**Request D-dimer YES/NO**

**(ensure score/ultrasound result included on request form or D-dimer test will not be processed)**

**NOTE: D-dimer cannot be used as part of the diagnostic algorithm in patients who have already received a dose of unfractionated or low molecular weight heparin (risk of false negative result).**

**\*Alternative diagnoses to consider:**

Cellulitis	Torn gastrocnemius (calf) muscle
Baker's cyst	Acute arterial ischaemia
Haematoma	Compartment syndrome
Fracture	Superficial thrombophlebitis
Arthritis	Post thrombotic syndrome
Lymphoedema	Hypoproteinaemia (eg cirrhosis, nephrotic syndrome)

Activity	Time	Initials	Comments
Assessment Completed			
Wells Score			
D-dimer			
Patients with low Wells score and neg D-dimer			
Discharge to GP			
Advice to patient			
Patients with low Wells score and positive D-dimer			
Date of Doppler			

Result of Doppler	Negative:- Additional comments	Discharge to GP
		Letter completed on MEDSECS
	Positive	Proceed to appropriate pathway

If Doppler delayed: LMWH dose to be given:

**Dalteparin recommended dosage for adults : Single Dose Syringes**

(a) Once daily administration

200 IU/kg body weight is administered sc once daily. Monitoring of the anticoagulant effect is not necessary. The single daily dose should not exceed 18,000 IU.

Day 1-5: A single daily dose of Dalteparin is administered subcutaneously once daily according to the following weight changes (monitoring of the anticoagulant effect is not usually necessary):

Weight	Dose	Colour
40-45kg	7,500 IU (1)	Green
46-56	10,000 IU (2)	Red
57-68	12,500 IU (3)	Brown
69-82	15,000 IU (4)	Purple
83 and over	18,000 IU (5)	Grey

- The single daily dose should not exceed 18,000 IU.
- For patients with an increased risk of bleeding, it is recommended that Dalteparin be administered according to the twice daily regimen detailed for Dalteparin 10,000 IU/ml ampoules or Fragmin Multidose Vial.

If >120kg split dose D/W SJL

<u>Contra-indications :</u>	DATE	YES	NO
Please discuss with a haematologist			
Active bleeding			
Acquired bleeding disorder (eg liver failure)			
Use of anticoagulant			
Platelets < 100			
Renal Failure (EGFR <30) Please discuss with medical team			
Untreated inherited bleeding disorder (eg haemophilia, Von Willebrand's)			

	<b>Tick</b>
<b>District Nurse to give LMWH</b>	
<b>Patient to give LMWH</b>	
<b>Prescription given</b>	
<b>Prescription chart/sharps box given</b>	
<b>Patient/relative counselled and shown how to administer</b>	

**Pre-treatment bloods if no previous results within 1 week**

<b>Test</b>	<b>Result</b>
<b>Hb</b>	
<b>WCC</b>	
<b>Plts</b>	
<b>EGFR</b>	
<b>Creatinine</b>	

**PGD Data**

<b>Name of preparation</b>	
<b>Dose, frequency and quantity of medicine supplied</b>	
<b>Date of supply to patient</b>	
<b>Batch number and expiry date</b>	
<b>Signature of person supplying medicine</b>	

**PGD checklist – short term LMWH for delayed doppler scan**

**Ensure:**

	<b>Tick</b>
Verbal consent obtained	
Dalteparin once daily – a pre-pack for 5 day supply and WP10HP for 10 day supply	
Dalteparin once daily – with instruction PGD 15 days supply	
Patient information sheet	
Any shortness of breath or chest pain patient advised to seek urgent medical advice	

**Either:**

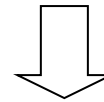
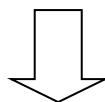
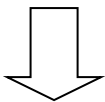
Positive D-dimer patients:			
Negative doppler			
Discharged to GP			
Letter on MEDSECS			
<i>Advise patient to return to GP if symptoms persist and no other cause found for raised D dimer. Consider repeat doppler after 1 week</i>		-	

**DVT Diagnosis confirmed (Wells score, D-dimer, Doppler scan)**

**Provoked DVT**

**Unprovoked DVT**

**VTE with underlying cancer**



**Pathway A**

**Pathway B**

**Pathway C**

**Rivaroxaban for 3 months  
Apixaban for 3 months**

**Calf DVT - first proximal DVT or  
Unprovoked PE**

**LMWH for at least 6  
months**

**Patients with recurrent DVT/PE  
or significant on-going risk of  
VTE: indefinite treatment**

**Please discuss unprovoked DVT  
with Doctor**



## Nurse led DVT Service Pathway A1 Apixaban Treatment Protocol for Provoked Thrombosis

Patient details
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Nurse completing pathway .....  
Date .....  
Time .....

- Patients who have suffered a 1st provoked DVT and only require 3 months anticoagulation will be offered the option of Apixaban
- Patients with poor venous access e.g. history of IVDU will be offered the option of Apixaban
- Patients with a history of excessive alcohol consumption, in whom warfarin and INR monitoring will be difficult will be offered the option of Apixaban
- If the patient has an obvious provoking risk factor, and /or has a calf DVT on Dopplers, then consider the use of Apixaban for treatment. If there are any queries please discuss patient with Dr Lewis or Dr Anderson.

### Exclusion criteria:

- Patients presenting with pulmonary embolus (PE)
- Patient with previous history of DVT, PE requiring **long term** anticoagulation
- Patients with risk factors for anticoagulation therapy, i.e. patients with a known history of bleeding disorders
- Patients who are totally immobile which precludes ambulatory care at home
- Patients with other medical conditions necessitating admission
- Obstetric DVT Pathway – referral to on-call obstetric team
- Oncology DVT Pathway Patients – need Dalteparin and referral to Dr Simon Noble
- Patients under 18 years old
- Patients with liver disease with associated coagulopathy
- Uncontrolled hypertension
- Severe renal impairment Stage 4/5 CKD
- GI, GU, and intracranial bleed
- Anticipated compliance problems

**Doppler result**

**Date of scan .....**

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<b>Provoking Risk Factors</b>			
Previous VTE	<b>Will usually need long term treatment</b> <b>Unprovoked DVT discuss with Doctor</b>	Pregnancy	<b>LMWH</b>
Recent surgery		Post partum	<b>Only Apixaban if not breastfeeding</b>
Medical IP stay		COCP or HRT	
POP cast		Cancer	<b>Needs LMWH</b>
IV drug use		Travel > 8hrs	

**Please give Dalteparin to the patient with positive scan and bring back to clinic for counselling and commencing Apixaban the following day.**

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Initials</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Patient is able to understand the instructions for anticoagulation or who have carers who can manage this for them.			
Calf vein DVT			
Proximal DVT (above popliteal vein and into the femoral vein) that is not compromising the leg, and which is not associated with pulmonary embolus.			

### Routine Bloods

<u>Test</u>	<u>Result</u>
Hb	
WCC	
Plts	
PT	
APTT	
Fibrinogen	
Creatinine	
eGFR	
Bilirubin	
ALT	
Albumin	
Pregnancy test on all women <50 yrs of age	

Please discuss any abnormal results with Dr Sarah Lewis or Dr Jessica Anderson

### Treatment with Apixaban

First 7 days	Subsequent 11 weeks
Apixaban 10mg bd	Apixaban 5mg bd

Apixaban for Positive Doppler – Day 1	Time	Initials	Comments
Date :			
Apixaban 10 mg bd prescribed for 1 week : prepack.			
Patient Information Leaflet on DVT/Symptoms to look out for			

Counselling on Apixaban			
Counselling and leaflet given regarding post thrombotic syndrome			
Appointment given for 1 week review			
Patient entered on DAWN			
Baseline bloods reviewed and documented			
GP letter sent and entered on MEDSECS			
<b>Patient discussed in weekly meeting with SJL/JLA</b>			

<b>Apixaban Day 7 Review</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Initials</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>Date :</b>			
Ensure compliance with treatment			
Patient issued with 5 mg bd for the duration of treatment:			
11 weeks FP 10 given			
Clinical review of DVT			

### Duration of anticoagulation

Indication	Duration	Follow up
1 <sup>st</sup> idiopathic proximal DVT	≥ 3 months	Thrombosis Clinic
1 <sup>st</sup> precipitated proximal DVT	3 months	*No follow up
1 <sup>st</sup> idiopathic distal DVT	3 months	*No follow up
1 <sup>st</sup> precipitated distal DVT	3 months	*No follow up
Recurrent DVT not on warfarin / sub-therapeutic INR	≥ 3 months	Thrombosis Clinic
Recurrent DVT on warfarin and therapeutic INR	Long-term	Thrombosis Clinic
DVT in patient with active cancer	6 months	Dr Simon Noble
Upper limb DVT	3 months	Thrombosis Clinic

**Please ensure only unprovoked DVT patients are referred on to the haematologist.**

### PGD Data

Name of preparation	
Dose, frequency and quantity of medicine supplied	
Date of supply to patient	
Batch number and expiry date	
Signature of person supplying medicine	

***Insert PDF Counselling***

## Apixaban (Eliquis) Counselling For Patients with VTE/PE

Document to be signed and filed in patient's medical record		
<b>Patient details:</b> affix addressograph	<b>Consultant</b>	
Hospital Number		
Name		
Date of Birth		
Address		
<b>INDICATION:</b>	DVT <input type="radio"/>	PE <input type="radio"/>
	Recurrent VTE <input type="radio"/>	
<i>Tick once completed</i> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Reason for anticoagulation explained to patient		
Importance of taking treatment regularly as prescribed, as missing a dose will increase risk of treatment failure and risk of further blood clot		
Duration of anticoagulation: 3 months <input type="radio"/>	Long-term <input type="radio"/>	Other (specify): <input type="radio"/> .....
Follow up plan: Discharge at end of treatment <input type="checkbox"/>	Discharging consultant <input type="checkbox"/>	
Apixaban (Eliquis) counselling		
<b>Apixaban</b> is contraindicated in pregnancy/breast feeding. Negative pregnancy test: Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	N/A <input type="checkbox"/>
Patient involved in and agrees to decision to treat with <b>Apixaban</b> as opposed to alternative treatment e.g. low molecular weight heparin and warfarin		
<b>Apixaban</b> is a tablet taken twice a day (12 hour apart). It can be taken with or without food, swallowed whole with a glass of water.		
If a dose is missed take <b>Apixaban</b> as soon as you remember and continue with regular dose at the usual time (do not double the next dose taken). Then continue with twice daily dosing as before.		
No routine coagulation monitoring, is required, however if patient is on long-term anticoagulation then they should have an annual anticoagulation review with their GP.		
Dosing regime explained: 1st 7 days it is 2 x 5mg tablet twice a day (at 12 hour intervals) (i.e – 10mg in the morning and 10mg in the evening)		
Dosing regime explained: At day 8 onwards it is one 5mg tablet twice daily (at 12hr interval) for the duration of treatment (i.e. – 5mg in the morning and 5mg in the evening)		
Explained to patient how the dose transition at day 8 will be managed. Date of appointment for transition :		
Patient counselled with regards to risk of treatment, including bleeding – management of this explained		
Common side effects of taking <b>Apixaban</b> include; Nausea, bruising and bleeding. Patient understands that if bleeding or suffers an injury, particularly head injury to attend emergency department immediately		
If patient suffers a non-bleeding related side effect they should <b>NOT</b> stop <b>Apixaban</b> but must seek advice from a Healthcare Professional (GP, nurse or pharmacist)		
Patient is aware that a number of different medicines that are prescribed or that can be brought over the counter from a pharmacy or herbalist might interact with <b>Apixaban</b> . Before starting any new medicines the patient must seek advice from a Healthcare Professional (GP, nurse or pharmacist)		
Patient has received written information regarding <b>Apixaban</b> and a patient alert card has been provided, which must be carried at all times and produced when seeing a Healthcare Professional (including GP, nurse, pharmacist or dentist)		
Counselling completed by: (sign and print)	Date	
Patient's name	Signature	Date



## Nurse led DVT Service

### Pathway A

## Rivaroxaban Treatment Protocol for Provoked Thrombosis

Patient details
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Nurse completing pathway .....  
Date .....  
Time .....

- Patients who have suffered a 1st provoked DVT and only require 3 months anticoagulation will be offered the option of warfarin or rivaroxaban
- Patients with poor venous access e.g. history of IVDU will be offered the option of LMWH or rivaroxaban
- Patients with a history of excessive alcohol consumption, in whom warfarin and INR monitoring will be difficult will be offered the option of LMWH rivaroxaban
- If the patient has an obvious provoking risk factor, and /or has a calf DVT on Dopplers, then consider the use of rivaroxaban for treatment. If there are any: queries please discuss patient with Dr Lewis or Dr Anderson.

#### Exclusion criteria:

- Patients presenting with pulmonary embolus (PE)
- Patient with previous history of DVT, PE requiring **long term** anticoagulation
- Patients with risk factors for anticoagulation therapy, i.e. patients with a known history of bleeding disorders
- Patients who are totally immobile which precludes ambulatory care at home
- Patients with other medical conditions necessitating admission
- Obstetric DVT Pathway – referral to on-call obstetric team
- Oncology DVT Pathway Patients – need Dalteparin and referral to Dr Simon Noble
- Patients under 18 years old
- Patients with liver disease with associated coagulopathy
- Uncontrolled hypertension
- Severe renal impairment Stage 4/5 CKD
- GI, GU, and intracranial bleed
- Anticipated compliance problems

**Doppler result**

**Date of scan .....**

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<b>Provoking Risk Factors</b>			
Previous VTE	<b>Will usually need long term treatment</b> <b>Discuss with haematologist</b>	Pregnancy	<b>LMWH</b>
Recent surgery		Post partum	<b>DO NOT USE IF BREAST FEEDING</b>
Medical IP stay		COCP or HRT	
POP cast		Cancer	<b>Needs LMWH</b>
IV drug use		Travel > 8hrs	

**Please give Dalteparin to the patient with positive scan and bring back to clinic for counselling and commencing Rivaroxaban the following day.**

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Initials</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Patient is able to understand the instructions for anticoagulation or who have carers who can manage this for them.			
Calf vein DVT			
Proximal DVT (above popliteal vein and into the femoral vein) that is not compromising the leg, and which is not associated with pulmonary embolus.			

### Routine Bloods

<u>Test</u>	<u>Result</u>
Hb	
WCC	
Plts	
PT	
APTT	
Fibrinogen	
Creatinine	
eGFR	
Bilirubin	
ALT	
Albumin	
Pregnancy test on all women <50 yrs of age	

Please discuss any abnormal results with Dr Sarah Lewis or Dr Jessica Anderson

### Treatment with Rivaroxaban

<b>First 3 weeks</b>	<b>Subsequent 9 weeks</b>
Rivaroxaban 15mg bd	Rivaroxaban 20mg od

<b>Rivaroxaban for Positive Doppler – Day 1</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Initials</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>Date :</b>			
Rivaroxaban prescribed 42 tablet pack Rivaroxaban Dosing <b>15mg bd for 21 days.</b>			
Patient Information Leaflet on DVT/Symptoms to look out for			
Counselling on Rivaroxaban			
Counselling and leaflet given regarding post thrombotic syndrome			
Appointment given for 3 week review			
Patient entered on DAWN			
Baseline bloods reviewed and documented			
GP letter on MEDSECS			
If female <50, pregnancy letter given			
<b>Patient discussed in weekly meeting with SJL/JLA</b>			

<b>Rivaroxaban Day 21 Review</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Initials</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>Date :</b>			
Ensure compliance with treatment			
Patient issued with 20mg daily for the duration of treatment: 3 months total <b>9 week FP 10 given</b>			
Clinical review of DVT			

### Duration of anticoagulation

Indication	Duration	Follow up
1 <sup>st</sup> idiopathic proximal DVT	≥ 3 months	Thrombosis Clinic
1 <sup>st</sup> precipitated proximal DVT	3 months	*No follow up
1 <sup>st</sup> idiopathic distal DVT	3 months	*No follow up
1 <sup>st</sup> precipitated distal DVT	3 months	*No follow up
Recurrent DVT not on warfarin / sub-therapeutic INR	≥ 3 months	Thrombosis Clinic
Recurrent DVT on warfarin and therapeutic INR	Long-term	Thrombosis Clinic
DVT in patient with active cancer	6 months	Dr Simon Noble
Upper limb DVT	3 months	Thrombosis Clinic

**Please ensure only unprovoked above knee DVT patients are referred on to the haematologist. Any women of child bearing age should be referred to a haematologist**

### PGD Data

Name of preparation	
Dose, frequency and quantity of medicine supplied	
Date of supply to patient	
Batch number and expiry date	
Signature of person supplying medicine	

## Aneurin Bevan University Health Board: Rivaroxaban (Xarelto) Counselling

**Document to be signed and filed in patient's medical record**

<b>Patient details:</b> affix addressograph	<b>Consultant</b>
Hospital Number	
Name	
Date of Birth	
Address	
<b>INDICATION:</b> DVT <input type="radio"/> PE <input type="radio"/> Recurrent VTE <input type="radio"/>	

Anticoagulation counselling <span style="float: right;">✓</span>			
Reason for anticoagulation explained to patient			
Importance of taking treatment regularly as prescribed, as missing a dose will increase risk of treatment failure and risk of further blood clot			
Duration of anticoagulation: 3 months	6 months	Long-term	Other (specify):
Follow up plan: Discharge at end of treatment <input type="radio"/> Haematology Clinic <input type="radio"/> Respiratory Clinic <input type="radio"/>			
Rivaroxaban (Xarelto) counselling <span style="float: right;">✓</span>			
Rivaroxaban is contraindicated in pregnancy / breast feeding. Negative pregnancy test: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>			
Patient involved in and agrees to decision to treat with rivaroxaban (Xarelto) as opposed to alternative treatment e.g. low molecular weight heparin and warfarin			
Rivaroxaban is a tablet and MUST be taken with food			
No routine coagulation monitoring			
Dosing regime explained: 1 <sup>st</sup> 21 days it is 15mg tablet twice a day (at 12 hour intervals)			
Dosing regime explained: At day 22 onwards it is one 20mg tablet daily for the duration of treatment			
Explained to patient how the dose transition at day 22 will be managed. Specify:			
If a dose is missed take rivaroxaban (Xarelto) immediately and continue with regular dose on the following day. The dose must NOT be doubled within the same day to make up for a missed dose			
Patient counselled with regards to risk of treatment, including risk of bleeding and lack of antidote			
Patient understands that if bleeding or suffers an injury, particularly head injury to attend emergency department immediately			
Rivaroxaban (Xarelto) can cause dizziness / fainting and if these are experienced the patient should not drive or operate machinery			
If patient suffers a non-bleeding related side effect they should not stop rivaroxaban (Xarelto) but must seek advice from a Healthcare Professional (ideally from doctor prescribing rivaroxaban, GP, pharmacy)			
Patient has received written information regarding rivaroxaban (Xarelto)			
Patient <b>alert card</b> provided, must be carried <b>at all times</b> and produced when seeing a Healthcare Professional (including GP, pharmacy, dentist)			

Doctor's name	Signature	Date
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Patient's name	Signature	Date
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Version 17-06-13

<p>Telephone consultation for end of treatment</p> <p>Date:</p> <p>Sign:</p>
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DATE	INR RESULT	WARFARIN DOSE	LMWH

**Maintenance dose of Warfarin**

.....

*Once Warfarin is >2 for 2 consecutive days & the patient has had 5 days of LMWH, proceed to discharge.*

**DISCHARGE SUMMARY**

Date of Discharge	
Next INR bloods due	
<u>Future INR monitoring</u>	
ABUHB DAWN monitoring	
<i>Ensure patient understands the DAWN letter</i>	
GP Own-dosing practice	
<i>Practice informed &amp; documentation sent</i>	
MEDSECS letter completed	
Referral made to Haematologist (if unprovoked):	

**NURSE LED AMBULATORY CARE PATHWAY FOR DVT**

**PATHWAY - C**

**LMWH (DALTEPARIN TREATMENT) FOR CANCER RELATED DVT**

(Please ensure only unprovoked DVT patients are referred on to the haematologist)

For patients with cancer related thrombosis there is a shared care protocol for the prescribing of LMWH in primary care which can be found at:

<http://www.wales.nhs.uk/sites3/Documents/814/DALTEPARINinTUMORS-ABUHBsharedCareProtocol%5BMay2013%5D.pdf>

Addressograph  
sticker

Date of Diagnosis: .....  
Date Treatment Commenced: .....  
GP Surgery: .....  
Patient Telephone Number: .....

Date of Doppler scan: .....  
Result of Doppler Scan/CTPA: .....  
Date referral made to SJL/SN: .....

**Dalteparin recommended dosage for adults : Single Dose Syringes**

**(a) Once daily administration.**

**200 IU/kg body weight is administered sc. once daily. Monitoring of the anticoagulant effect is not necessary. The single daily dose should not exceed 18,000 IU.**

**Day 1 – 5: A single daily dose of Dalteparin is administered subcutaneously once daily according to the following weight ranges (monitoring of the anticoagulant effect is not usually necessary):**

<b>Weight (kg)</b>	
<b>&lt;46</b>	
<b>46-56</b>	
<b>57-68</b>	

**PATIENT'S  
WEIGHT**

**INITIAL DOSE  
OF  
DALTEPARIN**

- The single daily dose should not exceed 18,000 IU.
- For patients with an increased risk of bleeding, it is recommended that Dalteparin be administered according to the twice daily regimen detailed for Dalteparin 10,000 IU/ml ampoules or Fragmin Multidose Vial.

Dalteparin prescribed as per weight on WP10

District Nurse to give LMWH

Prescription chart given (District nurse)

Patient to give LMWH

Patient/relative counselled and shown how to administer

**SIGN**

**DATE**

Patient counselled

.....

.....

Appointment given Day 14 for FBC

.....

.....

Appointment given for Day 30 to reduce dose

.....

.....

If transport required – (Booking number):

.....

**Baseline bloods reviewed.**

HB	
WCC	
Platelets	
PT	
APTT	
Fibrinogen	
Creatinine	
eGFR	
Bilirubin	
ALT	
Albumin	
Is there any need to monitor anti Xa levels? (weight extremes or renal impairment)	
Have the medics completed the shared care pathway?	

**Follow up visit at Day 30**

Date of visit: ..... Clinic review with SJL/SN: .....

Reduce dose as per BNF guidance: .....

Weight	Dose
40 – 56	7,500 IU (1)
57 – 68	10,000 IU (2)
69 – 82	12,500 IU (3)
83 – 98	15,000 I U (4)
>99	18,000 IU (5)

**GENERAL REVIEW OF PATIENT**

- Have symptoms generally improved?
- Any bleeding, bruising, difficulty with injections?
- Check FBC ( monitoring for HIT)

HAS PATIENT GOT SUPPLIES OF LMWH: YES – GP SHARED CARE PATHWAY

NO – FROM SJL//SN/DVT CLINIC

NO – FROM M.A.U. TEAM

**PGD DATA**

Name of preparation: .....
Dose, frequency & quantity of medicines supplied: .....
Date of supply to patient: .....
Batch number & expiry date: .....
Signature of person supplying the medicine: .....



**INFORMATION / ADVICE CHECKLIST FOR ORAL ANTICOAGULATION**

(TO BE COMPLETED FOR ALL PATIENTS)

Addressograph sticker

NAME OF ANTICOAGULANT .....

Individual need for anticoagulation.

e.g. DVT/PE/AF/Valve replacement/Prophylaxis/Thrombophilia/Other

Comment.....

Therapeutic range of INR	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Duration of treatment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Effects	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Correct method of taking tablets e.g. same time each day	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Keeping appointments/regular blood tests	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Side effects/related conditions e.g. bleeding, bruising	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
What to do if starting new/changing medication	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Interactions with other drugs e.g. Aspirin, Antibiotics etc	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dietary Advice	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Advice regarding head injury.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Alert Card & Information Leaflets given	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
INR Contact details given	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Interpreting instructions on letter	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Contraception instructions/negative pregnancy test for women of childbearing age	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Advice letter if they become pregnant	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CWS alert added	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Any other comments/interaction

.....  
 .....  
 .....

Patient's Signature ..... Date .....

Nurses Signature ..... Date .....

# Ambulatory Care Pathway ED / MAU for Deep Vein Thrombosis (Upper and Lower Limb)



**OOH – outside 9-4pm Mon - Fri**

**Patient details:**

addressograph

Date of attendance.....  
Time of attendance.....  
Seen by .....

**Exclusion Criteria**

1. Non ambulatory patients.
2. Pregnancy.
3. Active bleeding and/or platelet count <50.
4. Suspected PE.

**Presenting Problem and relevant history including duration of symptoms.**

<b>Medication.</b>	<b>Allergies</b>
--------------------	------------------

Baseline Blood tests U&E, clotting, LFT and FBC

**Calf Measurements**

Right cm

Left cm

<u>Wells pre-test Score</u> <i>(tick all that apply)</i>	Tick if present	Score
Active cancer (treatment ongoing or within 6 months, or palliative)	<input type="checkbox"/>	+1
Paralysis or recent plaster immobilisation of the lower extremities	<input type="checkbox"/>	+1
Recently bedridden for > 3 days or major surgery < 12 weeks ago	<input type="checkbox"/>	+1
Localised tenderness along the distribution of the deep venous system	<input type="checkbox"/>	+1
Entire leg (calf & thigh) swelling	<input type="checkbox"/>	+1
Calf swelling > 3 cms compared to the asymptomatic leg (measure 10 cms below tibial tuberosity)	<input type="checkbox"/>	+1
Pitting oedema confined to the symptomatic leg	<input type="checkbox"/>	+1
Previous DVT/PE documented	<input type="checkbox"/>	+1
Dilated (non varicose) superficial veins in symptomatic leg only	<input type="checkbox"/>	+1
Alternative diagnosis (as likely or greater than that of DVT)	<input type="checkbox"/>	-2
<b>TOTAL SCORE (FILL IN Box)</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>DVT LIKELY</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	≥2
<b>DVT UNLIKELY</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	≤1

**NOTE:** D-Dimer cannot be used as part of the diagnostic algorithm in patients who have already received a dose of unfractionated or low molecular weight heparin, are taking Warfarin/DOAC or who have a cancer diagnosis.

**If Wells score is < 2, proceed with D-dimer.**

**If Wells score is > 2, proceed to Doppler scan.**

**ED patients start Dalteparin and refer to DVT clinic**

**D-dimer**

**Time taken:** .....



**Ambulatory Care Pathway for DVT  
(continuation).....**

Patient details:

addressograph

**Discharge CHECKLIST**

- |  |                          |
|--|--------------------------|
| District Nurse to give LMWH  | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Patient to give LMWH   | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Overlabelled box of 5 Dalteparin given   | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Patient/relative counselled and shown how to administer                        | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Patient referred to DVT Service  | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Patient information leaflet given  |                          |
| Referral phoned and proforma/ notes scanned and emailed (or placed in MAU box) |                          |

**DVT Service @ Nevill Hall Hospital, Abergavenny**  
**Tel: 01873 732193 (9am – 4pm) Fax: 01873 732063**  
*Tel: 01873 732192 (OoH voicemail)*

**DVT Service @ Royal Gwent Hospital, Newport**  
**Tel: 01633 234632 (9am – 4pm) -**  
*Tel: 01633 234632 (OoH voicemail)*

**DVT Service @ Ysbyty Ystard Fawr, Ystrad Mynach**  
**Tel: 01443 802638 (10am – 3pm) - Fax: 01443 802643**  
*Tel: 01443 802638 (OoH voicemail)*