

Patient Name	Prescriber's name
House number and street name	Surgery Name
Town	Street Name
Postcode	Town
NHS Number:	Postcode
	Contact tel number

Dear <patient name> <Date>

### We'd like to help you manage your health and medicines.

Following your appointment today and as we agreed, you have been prescribed a new medicine to help reduce your risk of stroke due to your Atrial Fibrillation.

The name of your new medicine is: <Edoxaban / Apixaban / Rivaroxaban / Dabigatran / Warfarin>

It was started on: <insert date first prescribed>

We want to support you in managing your new medicine. To do this we need you to read this letter and attend a free consultation with your community pharmacy (chemist). This is in addition to the routine reviews offered by other members of our team such as your nurse, GP, surgery pharmacist and/or hospital.

It is common for people to have questions about a new medicine after leaving the GP surgery as a lot of information is provided to you when you first discuss starting an anticoagulant. We wish to ensure you have full opportunity and support to understand your medication, and that your medication is safe and works for you.

We are all here to support you and help with any concerns that you might have. Please remember the following:

- If you have any concerns about your medicines, raise them with one of the healthcare professionals. It's OK to ask.
- Please let us know if you are having any difficulties in taking your medicines as prescribed.
- Please attend your review appointment at the GP practice to have a check-up and discuss any concerns.
- Attending the community pharmacy review will provide you with additional support.
- Ensure you maintain a healthy lifestyle. For more information on staying healthy and making better choices see:
  - Change for Life <https://www.nhs.uk/change4life/>
  - Healthy Hearts <https://www.leedsccg.nhs.uk/health/healthy-living/healthy-hearts/>

### What to do next?

Please take this letter to your usual community pharmacy (chemist) to arrange an appointment for a New Medicines Service.

The New Medicine Service is a free NHS consultation, offered through your pharmacy, to help you understand your condition, get the most out of your new medicine(s) and discuss any concerns. The pharmacist will:

- help you to find out more about the new medicine(s) you are taking
- help to sort out any issues you are having with your new medicine(s)
- give you a chance to ask questions about your medicine(s) and discuss any concerns

- help to improve the effectiveness of your new medicine, for example, there may be an easier or better way to take it.
- help you to make your own decisions about managing your condition.
- help you to improve your health, which could lead to fewer GP and hospital visits.

If you would like further information about this free review, please speak to your pharmacist, GP or nurse.

Yours sincerely

On behalf of Dr XX and Partners at XX Surgery

**Safety reminder:**  
**While you take an anticoagulant medication always carry an anticoagulant alert card with you. These are included in new boxes of anticoagulant tablets or ask your pharmacist for advice.**

#### INFORMATION FOR COMMUNITY PHARMACY

Dear Pharmacist

This patient has been newly prescribed an anticoagulant medicine to reduce their risk of stroke from their Atrial Fibrillation and would benefit from the New Medicines Service.

Please arrange a mutually convenient time for this patient to attend the pharmacy for this service.

The patient's newly prescribed medicine is listed in one of the following BNF chapters/sub-sections:

**2.8.2 Oral anticoagulants**

**2.9 Antiplatelet drugs**



The patient has been newly prescribed the medicine as **antiplatelet or anticoagulant therapy**