

Catherine A. Hebert, D.D.S.

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Management of the Dental Patient on Anticoagulant Medication

TARGET INR FOR SPECIFIC MEDICAL CONDITIONS	
Condition	INR
Venous Thrombosis	2.0 - 3.0
Atrial Fibrillation	2.0 - 3.0
Post myocardial infarction	2.5 – 3.5
Presence of mechanical heart valve	3.0 – 3.5
Hypercoagulable states	3.0 - 4.0

HERBAL SUPPLEMENTS THAT AFFECT PLATELET AGGREGATION	
Agent	Uses
Garlic	Lowers cholesterol and blood pressure
Gingko	Improves memory function
Ginseng	Enhances endurance, lowers blood sugar
Ginger	Antinausea, antispasmodic
Feverfew	Migraine headaches, arthritis
Vitamin E	Antioxidant, cancer prevention

COMMERCIAL AGENTS AVAILABLE TO AID IN CONTROL OF BLEEDING	
Agent	Distributor
Gelfoam	Pfizer
CollaPlug	Integra LifeSciences
Surgicel	Johnson & Johnson
Bone Wax	Ethicon
Tranexamic acid	Cyklokapron (Pharmacia & Upjohn Co.)
ActCel	Coreva Health Sciences
BloodSTOP	LifeScience PLUS

Reference Rada RE, Management of the Dental Patient on Anticoagulant Medication. In: Dentistry Today, August 2006

Common Medication Contraindications

ASA-LIKE DRUGS	
Do Not Prescribe	Prescribe With Caution
Ulcers (especially peptic)	Heartburn or indigestion
Children under 16 years old	Asthma
Breast feeding mothers	Liver impairment
Anemia with G6P-Deficiency	Diabetes
Allergy to aspirin	Gout

NSAIDs	
Do Not Prescribe	Prescribe With Caution
Allergy to NSAIDs and/or aspirin	Asthma
During pregnancy	Kidney impairment
During breast feeding	Heart impairment
To patients on anticoagulants	Liver impairment
To patients with clotting system defects	Heartburn or indigestion
Active peptic ulcer	

ACETAMINOPHEN	
Do Not Prescribe	Prescribe With Caution
Alcoholism	To patients on Coumadin
Liver problems	To patients on liver enzyme medications
Liver transplants	To patients on cholestyramine
Allergy to acetaminophen	