



Evaluation of a Pharmacist- Managed Warfarin Clinic at Central Chest Institute, Thailand

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Backgrounds :

Oral anticoagulants have been used in the treatment and prevention of thromboembolic diseases. Although the medication may be life-saving, it carries significant risks of side effects, including bleeding and thromboembolic complications.

Objectives :

To evaluate pharmacist managed warfarin clinic with clinical outcomes during three years period at Central Chest Institute, Thailand.



Methods :

Warfarin clinic has been developed with the core pharmacists through multidisciplinary approach. Patients with mechanical valve replacement will consult for warfarin counseling and use POC device for INR testing by nurses, adverse events monitoring and dosage adjustment by clinical pharmacists.

Step 1: Vital sign checking, INR testing and warfarin counseling by nurse



Step 2 : Pharmaceutical Care by Pharmacist



- Review patient's history and medication profiles
- Review and evaluate the relation between patient's INR and warfarin dosage

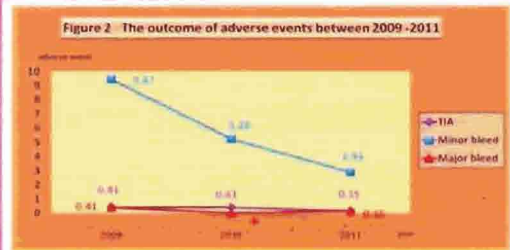
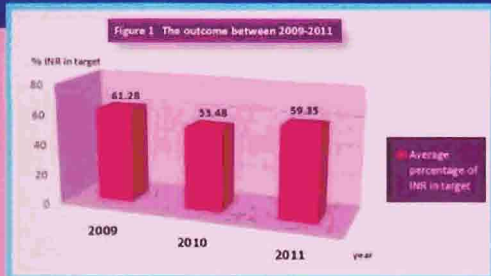
Step 3 : Physical check up by physician



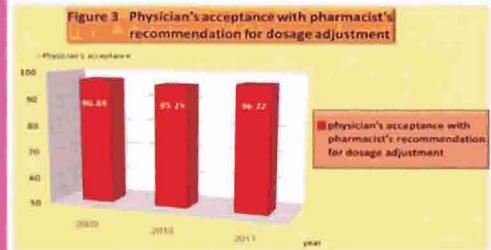
- Evaluate factors affecting INR
 - Compliance with recommended dose
 - Drug-Drug/ Drug-Herbal products interaction
 - Food intake (esp. vitamin K)
 - Patient's status
- Educate warfarin knowledge/ Provide patient education
- Recommend dose adjustment for physician

Results :

From June 2007 through September 2011, 163 patients were included in the data analysis. The average percentage of INR in target was 60.40%.



The percentages of major bleeding event were 0.41, 0.00 and 0.15 respectively. A trend of minor bleeding was decreased by 9.47 to 5.28 and 2.93 respectively. The percentage of thromboembolisms were 0.41, 0.41 and 0.15 respectively.



The average percentage of physician's acceptance with pharmacist's recommendation for dosage adjustment was 86.12%.

Conclusions :

The percentage of INR in target was increased when compared with conventional therapy (41.67%). Furthermore, the role of pharmacist has been well recognized by the multidisciplinary team. Due to the limitation of the study, patient satisfaction was not evaluated. Therefore, further studies should be undertaken to evaluate patient knowledge on warfarin and factors associated with patients compliance.

