

Apixaban for Atrial Fibrillation – Initiation Checklist (primary care only)

For cautions, contra-indications and interactions, refer to SPCs: [apixaban 2.5mg tablets](#) and [apixaban 5mg tablets](#)

[NICE TA 275](#) : Apixaban for preventing stroke and systemic embolism in people with nonvalvular atrial fibrillation

Refer to: [Wirral Oral Anticoagulant Guidelines](#)

Patient details:

Name: _____ DOB: _____
Weight: _____ SrCr: _____

Creatinine Clearance Calculation (CrCl): Calculation of CrCl using Cockcroft and Gault equation** or a [reputable online CrCl calculator](#)

$$\frac{(140 - \text{Age} \dots\dots) \times \text{Weight} \dots\dots \times \text{CONSTANT} \dots\dots}{\text{Serum creatinine (micromol/L)} \dots\dots\dots} = \dots\dots \text{ml/min}$$

* Female use actual body weight if ≤ 60kg, if > 60kg use 60kg. Male use actual body weight if ≤ 70kg, if > 70kg use 70kg.

CONSTANT

Male = 1.23

Female = 1.04

****Cockcroft and Gault does not apply to all patients. Exclusion criteria include: unstable serum creatinine, pregnancy, malnutrition, amputation and dialysis.**

Renal Function:

Patient's CrCl is greater than 30mls/min (prescribe standard dose of apixaban 5mg twice daily)

Patient's CrCl is between 15-29mls/min (prescribe reduced dose of apixaban 2.5mg twice daily)

Patient's CrCl is less than 15mls/min (**apixaban contra-indicated**)

Indication for apixaban as per [NICE TA 275](#)):

Patient has nonvalvular AF with one or more of the following risk factors:

- Previous stroke or transient ischaemic attack
- Hypertension
- Symptomatic heart failure
- ≥75 years old
- Diabetes

Baseline checks to be undertaken – aPTT, INR, Hb, U&Es and LFTs

Consider contraindications, cautions and interacting drugs using references at the top of the page.

Initiation dose of apixaban is:

Standard dose 5mg twice daily

or

Reduced dose 2.5mg twice daily

Reason for reduced dose:

In renal impairment: a) CrCl 15-29mls/min

b) SrCr ≥ 133 micromol/litre associated with age ≥ 80 years or body weight ≤ 60 kg

No renal impairment:

At least TWO of the following:

SrCr ≥ 133 micromol/litre **OR** Age ≥ 80 years of age **OR** Weight ≤ 60kg

Patient has been counselled, given an apixaban alert card and [patient information leaflet](#)

Patient understands the risk/benefits of apixaban, including therapy being continued long term and understands that there is currently no antidote for potential bleeding risk.

Prescriber's Signature: _____

Date: _____

