

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](#) and [Pan Mersey guidance](#)

Patient details:

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

Creatinine Clearance Calculation (CrCl): Calculation of CrCl using Cockcroft and Gault equation or a reputable online CrCl calculator. Please use information in the [NW Coast Strategic Network Consensus Guidance](#)

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.

Prescriber's Signature: _____

Date: _____