



Public Petition 1566: Warfarin

- (i) Does your NHS Board have a protocol, e.g. a service delivery model or similar policy, on self-testing and self-management for warfarin patients?**

NHS Dumfries & Galloway does not have a specific service delivery model or similar policy on self testing and self management for warfarin patients. We believe the decision on this is best left with the individual prescriber and patient to identify the patients clinical needs and how they are best met. Therefore the choice of treatment and monitoring is dealt with at that level.

- (ii) What guidance and training does your NHS Board provide to its NHS staff on self-testing and self-management for warfarin patients and is its implementation monitored?**

This Board does not provide specific guidance or training to NHS staff on self testing and self management for warfarin patients. As has been said above we believe this is best left to individual prescribers and patients to determine how treatment is best managed.

- (iii) What is your NHS Board doing to promote self-testing and self-management amongst its warfarin patients? If it does not promote self-testing and self-management, please explain the reasoning behind this decision.**

Whilst not actively promoting self testing this Board is keen to improve warfarin monitoring services thus improving the safety and effectiveness of warfarin treatment. In this regard we have recently introduced a pilot project to improve accessibility and responsiveness of warfarin monitoring. This project allows a number of practices to actively use CoaguChek meters and strips within the practice to monitor INR levels and communicate results and any consequent dose change in a much more timely and responsive way.

- (iv) What protocol, guidance or measures are in place in paediatric hospitals or paediatric care facilities in your area to provide support for warfarin patients who move from paediatric to adult services? Is there any oversight of this process, especially in circumstances where an individual is moving between different NHS Board areas, and what training or guidance is provided to staff on this issue.**

We are not aware of any children locally who are on warfarin at present.

Children on this therapy in this Board are very few. And if we did have any, their management would almost certainly involve specialist input from a tertiary team who would be involved in transition processes also.

We do not have a specialist service or pre-determined pathways for transition. Any cases that we would have would be so infrequent and so specialised that we would develop a tailored pathway suited to the needs of the individual child / young person.

(v) *How many warfarin patients are there within your authority and, of those, how many self-test and/or self-monitor?*

We currently have (April 2015) 2912 patients receiving warfarin on prescription. We have 15 patients receiving self monitoring strips on prescription.