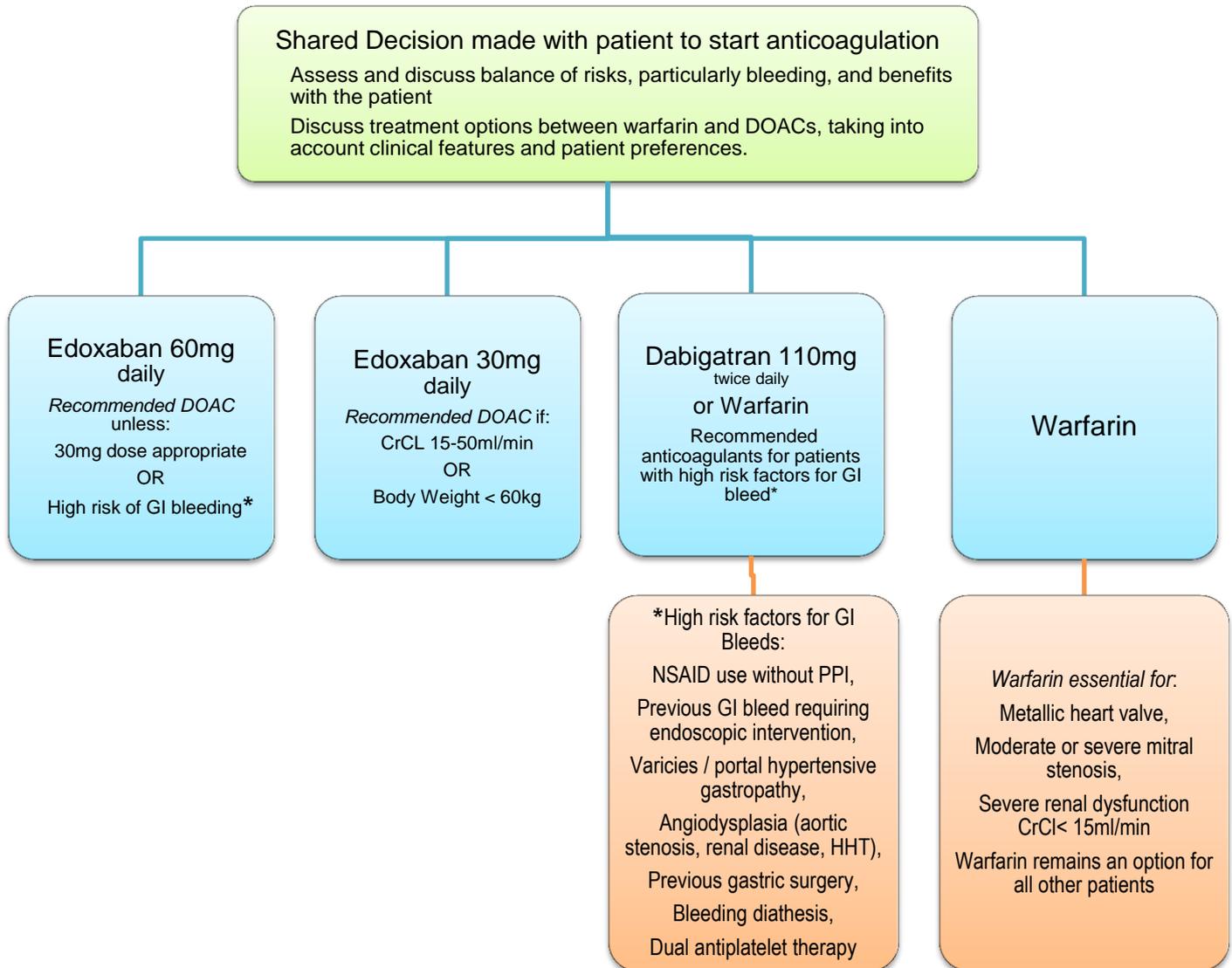


# Anticoagulant selection tool for patients with Atrial Fibrillation in the Prescribing Clinical Network (PCN) collaborative

To be used in conjunction with NICE Clinical Knowledge Summaries (CKS) - [Anticoagulation – oral](#)



Apixaban, dabigatran, and rivaroxaban are also approved by NICE for stroke prevention in AF and all are available in the local formularies. However these agents all have significantly higher cost to the health economy. There are no head-to-head trials demonstrating superiority of one agent over another. Dabigatran is currently the only DOAC with an antidote.

For patients with excellent renal function, generally patients under 40 without co-morbidities, it is possible that DOACs are eliminated faster and have reduced efficacy. For these patients it may be better to prescribe warfarin, where levels can be monitored, or the DOAC with the longest half-life with a BD dosing, dabigatran 150mg.

Prepared for PCN, August 2017 by:  
Dr. Stephen Cookson  
Consultant Cardiologist  
Guardian of Safe Working Hours  
Royal Surrey County Hospital

Carina Joanes  
Lead Commissioning Pharmacist, Supporting  
Guildford and Waverley CCG, and Surrey Heath  
CCG