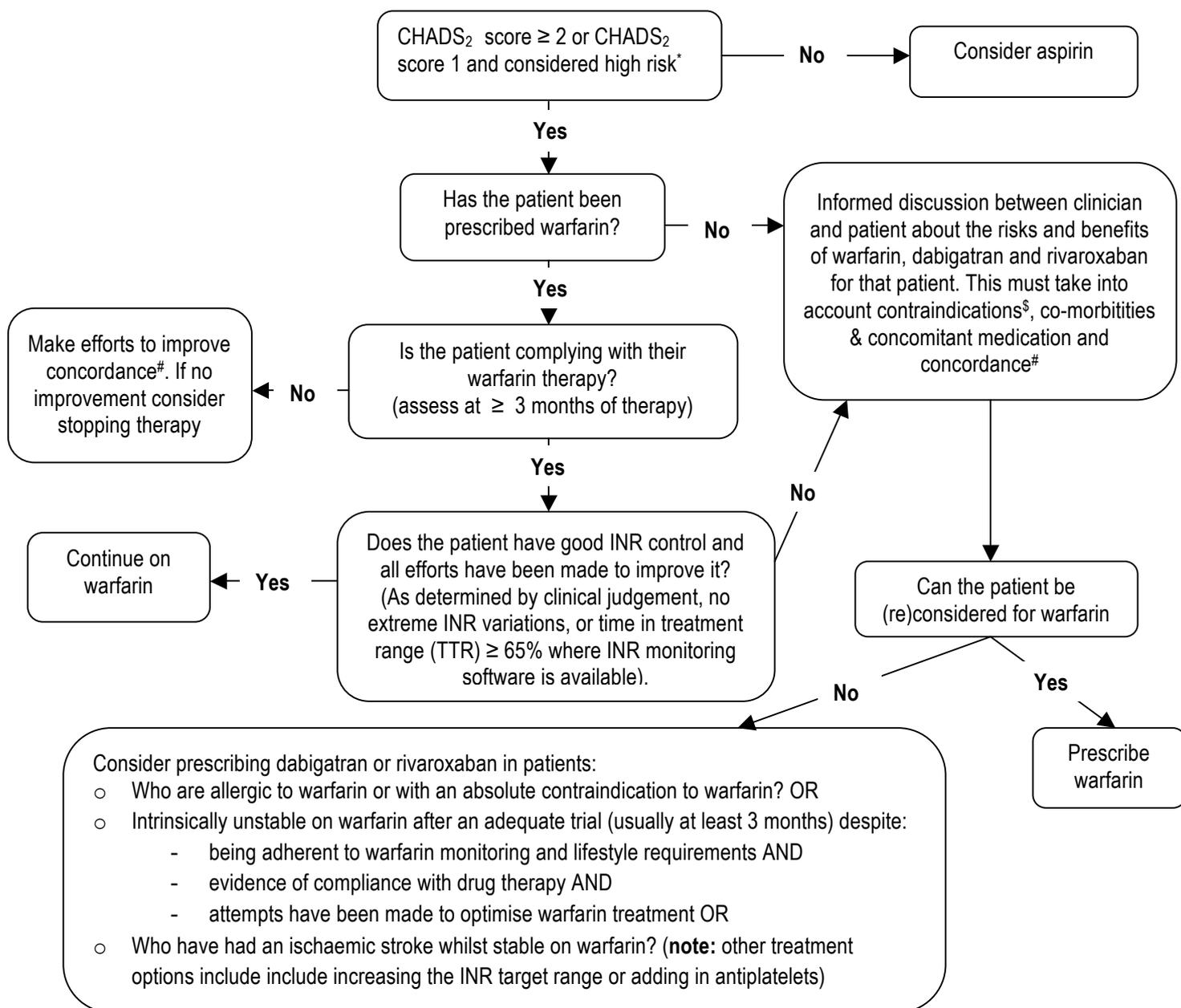


### Recommended treatment pathway for the prevention of stroke and systemic embolism in adult patients with non-valvular atrial fibrillation

**On balance of risks and benefits, warfarin remains the anticoagulant of clinical choice for moderate or high risk atrial fibrillation patients CHADS<sub>2</sub> ≥ 2**



\*Stroke risk can also be assessed using the CHA<sub>2</sub>DS<sub>2</sub>-VASc score, a score of ≥1 indicates suitability for warfarin, dabigatran or rivaroxaban.

#Poor concordance with warfarin is not an indication for initiating dabigatran or rivaroxaban as these drugs have shorter half lives. INR self monitoring may be an option in patients less able to access phlebotomy services

§Many contraindications to warfarin also apply to dabigatran and rivaroxaban. Specialist advice may need to be sought before initiating warfarin contra-indicated patients on dabigatran or rivaroxaban.