

Management of Significantly Elevated INR With or Without Bleeding¹

INR 5.0 to 8.9, no significant bleeding: Omit 1 to 2 doses; reduce dose 10 to 20 percent; monitor frequently. Alternately consider vitamin K1 1 to 2.5 mg orally.

INR \geq 9.0, no significant bleeding: Hold warfarin therapy; give vitamin K1 5 to 10 mg orally; monitor frequently. Resume at lower dose when INR is therapeutic.

Serious bleeding, any INR: Hold warfarin; give vitamin K1 10 mg slow intravenous (IV) plus fresh plasma or prothrombin complex concentrate, depending on urgency; repeat vitamin K1 every 12 hours as needed.

Life-threatening bleeding, any INR: Hold warfarin; give prothrombin complex concentrate (or recombinant factor VIIa as an alternate) supplemented with vitamin K1 (10 mg slow IV); repeat as needed.

1. Ansell J, Hirsh J, Poller L, Bussey H, Jacobson A, Hylek E. The pharmacology and management of the vitamin K antagonists: the Seventh ACCP Conference on Antithrombotic and Thrombolytic Therapy [published correction appears in *Chest* 2005;127:415-6]. *Chest* 2004;126(3 suppl):204S-33S.