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Anti-thrombotic treatment in 21st Century, Is this the end of warfarin era?

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Abstract

Atrial fibrillation is the most common clinically significant cardiac arrhythmia. It is also a potent risk factor for ischemic stroke, increasing the risk of stroke 5-fold and accounting for approximately 15% of all strokes nationally. The projected number of patients with atrial fibrillation in United States is more 5 million by year 2050. While warfarin has been recommended for stroke prevention since mid 1990s only half of patients with atrial fibrillation are on appropriate treatment due to various challenges with this agent. Within the past 2-3 years 3 new oral anticoagulant have entered the market for primary stroke prevention and several more are in the pipeline. This presentation will review historical perspective of the anticoagulant agents and challenges facing the clinicians with the new agents. Highlights of the 3 major trials with the 3 novel anticoagulants dabigatran, rivaroxaban and apixaban as well as subgroup meta-analysis of the 3 novel agents as compared to the warfarin in regard to the primary and safety outcomes will be presented.

Biography

Artang graduated from the University Of Copenhagen School Of Medicine in 1994 after which he continued his clinical work and PhD research studies on cardiovascular disease and pathophysiology of blood clot formation. He completed his training in Cardiology in United States in 2007. Dr. Artang is the director of Non Invasive Cardiac and Vascular Imaging at Mercy Medical Center. He also serves as assistant professor of Medicine at the Division of Cardiology at the University of Nebraska Medical Center in Omaha where is involved in training and education of cardiology fellows and has ongoing research activities. He has published several papers in basic and clinical science and has presented his work in international meetings including the Annual Scientific Session of the American College of Cardiology, European Society of Cardiology and International Society of Thrombosis and Haemostasis on several occasions. The results of his research have been cited more than 50 times by other investigators in international medical journals including The Lancet, Circulation, Heart and Thrombosis and Haemostasis.