

Publication

Insights into direct oral anticoagulant therapy implementation of stroke survivors with atrial fibrillation in an ambulatory setting

JournalArticle (Originalarbeit in einer wissenschaftlichen Zeitschrift)**ID** 4626500**Author(s)** Albert, Valerie; Polymeris, Alexandros A; Dietrich, Fine; Engelter, Stefan T; Hersberger, Kurt E; Schaedelin, Sabine; Lyrer, Philippe A; Arnet, Isabelle**Author(s) at UniBasel** [Arnet, Isabelle](#) ; [Albert, Valerie](#) ; [Polymeris, Alexandros](#) ; [Dietrich, Fine Michèle](#) ; [Engelter, Stefan](#) ; [Hersberger, Kurt](#) ; [Schädelin, Sabine](#) ; [Lyrer, Philippe A.](#) ;**Year** 2021**Title** Insights into direct oral anticoagulant therapy implementation of stroke survivors with atrial fibrillation in an ambulatory setting**Journal** J Stroke Cerebrovas Dis**Volume** 30**Number** 2**Pages / Article-Number** 105530**Keywords** Atrial fibrillation; Direct oral anticoagulants; Electronic monitoring; Ischemic stroke; Medication adherence**Mesh terms** Aged; Aged, 80 and over; Ambulatory Care; Atrial Fibrillation, complications, diagnosis, drug therapy; Drug Administration Schedule; Factor Xa Inhibitors, administration & dosage, adverse effects; Female; Health Knowledge, Attitudes, Practice; Humans; Ischemic Stroke, diagnosis, etiology; Male; Medication Adherence; Patient Education as Topic; Time Factors; Treatment Outcome

To describe how stroke survivors with atrial fibrillation implement direct oral anticoagulant treatment and propose appropriate metrics to describe adherence.; Stroke patients with atrial fibrillation electronically recorded their self-administered direct oral anticoagulants (apixaban, dabigatran, edoxaban, rivaroxaban) during a 6-month observation phase after hospitalisation for ischemic stroke. Taking and timing adherence, correct dosing days, drug holidays, time of the day and day of the week subsets, dose-to-dose intervals and longest intervals between two consecutive doses were calculated from electronic monitoring data to describe and discuss the implementation phase of adherence.; Data from 41 patients were analysed. Median age was 77 (IQR=/69-84), 63.4% were male and the majority suffered a mild stroke (median NIHSS: 1). Mean taking and timing adherence exceeded 90%. Correct dosing occurred in 86.6% of the days. Seven patients (17.1%) had intake pauses of three or more consecutive days. Patients with twice-daily regimen (70.7%) had higher taking adherence in the morning than in the evening (94.4% versus 89.9%; $p=0.001$). No therapy- or anamneses-related characteristic was associated with taking adherence.; Although adherence to direct oral anticoagulants of stroke patients with atrial fibrillation exceeded 90%, deviant intake patterns such as drug holidays and missed evening doses were common and raise concerns. Appropriate adherence metrics calculated from electronic monitoring data may guide healthcare professionals elucidating patient-tailored adherence-enhancing interventions. ClinicalTrials.gov registration number: NCT03344146.

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