



ADULT MEDICATION GUIDELINE

WARFARIN

Scope (Staff): All WNHS Staff

Scope (Area): Obstetrics and Gynaecology

This document should be read in conjunction with the [Disclaimer](#).

Quick Links

[Dose](#)

[Administration](#)

[Monitoring](#)

[Pregnancy and Breastfeeding](#)

Restrictions

[Formulary: Highly Restricted](#)

[HIGH RISK Medication](#) 

Medication Class

Vitamin K antagonist

Presentation

Always use the same brand as different brands are NOT bioequivalent

Tablet (**Marevan®**): 1mg (brown), 3mg (blue), 5mg (pink)

Tablet (**Coumadin®**): 1mg (light tan), 2mg (lavender), 5mg (green)

Storage

Store at room temperature, below 25°C

Dose

Initial dosing

Oral: See [VTE: Prevention and Management Guideline](#) and Anticoagulation Medication Chart MR 810.11 for doses and target INR ranges

Withholding and Restarting Peri-Operatively

Oral: Refer to [Pre-operative Medication Management](#)

Administration

Oral

Should be taken consistently with regards to food.

Consider providing patient information [Living With Warfarin](#)

Monitoring

Obtain INR according to local protocol (see Anticoagulation Medication Chart MR 810.11) until INR is stable in the therapeutic range.

Full effect of a dose change is not seen for 2 to 3 days.

If starting warfarin in a heparinised patient, discontinue heparin after a minimum of 4 days of warfarin therapy and when INR is therapeutic (>2) for two consecutive days.

Pregnancy

1st Trimester: Contraindicated

2nd Trimester: Contraindicated

3rd Trimester: Contraindicated

For more information, please contact [KEMH Obstetric Medicines Information Service](#).

Breastfeeding

Considered safe to use

For more information, please contact [KEMH Obstetric Medicines Information Service](#).

Related Policies, Procedures & Guidelines

External Legislation, Standards and Policy (list and hyperlink)

[Venous Thromboembolism Prevention Clinical Care Standard](#)

[National Safety and Quality Health Service \(NSQHS\) Standards: Medication Safety Standard: Medication Management Processes: Action 4.15](#)

HDWA Mandatory Policies:

[Guideline for Anticoagulation using Warfarin](#)

[High Risk Medication Policy](#)

[Medication Chart Policy](#)

WNHS Clinical Practice Guidelines:

[Cardiac disease](#)

[High Risk Medicines](#)

[Venous thromboembolism \(VTE\): Prevention and Management](#)









WNHS Pharmaceutical and Medicines Management Guidelines:

[Pre-operative Medication Management](#)

References

Australian Medicines Handbook. Warfarin. In: Australian Medicines Handbook [Internet]. Adelaide (South Australia): Australian Medicines Handbook; 2021 [cited 2021 Jul 19]. Available from: <https://amhonline.amh.net.au/>

The Royal Women's Hospital. Warfarin. In: Pregnancy and Breastfeeding Medicines Guide [Internet]. Parkville (Victoria): The Royal Women's Hospital; 2021 [cited 2021 Jul 19]. Available from: <https://thewomenspbmg.org.au/>

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