



# Anticoagulation medication

Engagement 2013

Anticoagulant medicines reduce the ability of the blood to clot (coagulation means clotting). This is necessary because if the blood clots too much, then clots can block blood vessels and lead to conditions such as a stroke or a heart attack.

In Leeds there are approximately 10,000 people who take the anticoagulant drug, Warfarin. This currently involves giving a blood sample around 18 times a year. These samples can be taken in the home or at clinics around the city. The average age of these patients is 72.

New anticoagulant drugs have recently become available and this has prompted a review of the service and its patients. It has been agreed that a service redesign may help prioritise patients who need the service and improve the way care is delivered. This engagement outlines a number of redesign options for the anticoagulant service and seeks the views of service users and the wider public on the changes.

**We value your views because they help us provide the services you need in the way you need them. Please take a couple of minutes to fill in this form and tell us what you think. You can also fill in this survey online here: [Anticoagulation patient survey](#)  
This survey is confidential and you don't need to fill in your name.**

Name:

Tel:

Email:

Address:

Postcode:

GP Practice:

If you are interested in finding out more about our anticoagulation work, please tick the box below and fill in your contact details.

**I would like to find out more about anticoagulation work at NHS Leeds West CCG**

## 1. The current anticoagulant service

**a. Are you currently taking anticoagulation medication?** Yes  No

**b. If so, how satisfied are you with the current service?**  
Very dissatisfied ←————→ Very satisfied

**c. How far do you normally travel to your anticoagulant clinic?**  
Up to 1 mile  1-5 miles  6-10 miles  Over 10 miles

**d. How do you normally travel to your anticoagulant clinic?**  
Public transport  Walk  Car (driver)  Car (passenger)   
Cycle  Taxi  Other (please state)

## 2. Consideration 1 – Expanding the anticoagulation service

There are between 3500 and 5000 patients in Leeds who would get some clinical benefit from taking an anticoagulant but don't. Each year around 1 in 20 of these patients will have a stroke. If they all took anticoagulants this would be reduced to 1 in 50.

If all the people who could benefit from taking anticoagulants were to start the medication we could prevent between 100 and 150 strokes every year.

***Our proposal is to expand the anticoagulant service to all those people who would clinically benefit from taking the drug. Do you agree with our proposal?*** Yes  No

Please share any other thoughts you have about this proposal



### 3. Consideration 2 – New anticoagulant drug

Warfarin is the main oral anticoagulant used in the UK (oral means it is taken by mouth). Warfarin treatment in Leeds costs the NHS approximately £1 million each year. 80% of patients manage perfectly well on Warfarin and would derive no additional clinical benefit changing their medication. New drugs are now available to treat blood clotting. These drugs are more expensive than Warfarin and if everyone was to be treated with the new drugs this would cost the NHS in Leeds £7 million each year. This additional £6 million is the equivalent of c1000 hip replacements. Only one in five patients who need anticoagulant medication will derive clinical benefit from the new drugs, however the new drugs reduce the average number of blood tests the patient will require each year from 16 to two.

***Our proposal is to provide the new drugs to people who will clinically benefit and maintain the majority of patients on Warfarin. Do you agree with our proposal?***

Yes

No

Please share any other thoughts you have about this proposal

### 4. Consideration 3 – Taking your blood sample

At the moment our 9500 patients are tested, on average every 21 days, which is 120,000, to 130,000 tests per year. There are two different ways to take a blood sample from a patient; phlebotomy and finger pricks.

a) Phlebotomy (taking blood from a vein in the arm)	<b>benefits</b> It's cheap – 40p p/sample It's quick – 4-5 minutes	<b>drawbacks</b> It takes time to process Some people don't like needles
b) Finger prick	<b>benefits</b> It's quick – 4-5 minutes Some people prefer it to needles It's quick to process	<b>drawbacks</b> It's a little more expensive

***Our proposal is to let patients choose how they wish to have their sample taken? Do you agree with our proposal?***

Yes

No

Please share any other thoughts you have about this proposal

### 5. Consideration 4 – Processing your blood sample

There are 3 main methods of processing the blood sample to give a result.

a) An analyser in a laboratory	<b>benefits</b> Can be used for other blood tests Cheap to run (25p a test)	<b>drawbacks</b> Very expensive to run (£100,000 each year) Needs phlebotomy samples
b) An INR analyser	<b>benefits</b> Cost £2,500 each Can be used with finger prick tests Relatively cheap to run (40p a test)	<b>drawbacks</b> Can only be used to monitor Warfarin
c) A portable analyser	<b>benefits</b> Cost £300 to £400 each Can be used with finger prick tests	<b>drawbacks</b> High test cost (£2.50 - £3 each) 2 year warranty on machines

***Our proposal is to use INR analysers at our fixed sites and portable analysers on home visits? Do you agree with our proposal?***

Yes

No

Please share any other thoughts you have about this proposal



## 6. Consideration 5 – Waiting for your test result

There are two ways for people to receive their results and be advised of the dose to take.

a) Receive your result at your appointment	<b>benefits</b> Could prevent harm in patients who require immediate dose adjustment or treatment	<b>drawbacks</b> A <i>significantly</i> longer consultation (up to 20 minutes) <i>Significantly</i> higher staff costs
b) Receive your result by letter or phone after your appointment	<b>benefits</b> A short consultation (five minutes) A good use of staff/patient time	<b>drawbacks</b> If the result requires action it can take time to contact the patient

**Our proposal is to provide only high risk patients with results at the appointment?**

Yes

No

**Do you agree with our proposal?**

Please share any other thoughts you have about this proposal

## 7. Consideration 6 – travelling to your appointment and appointment times

The average age of a person using anticoagulant medication is 72.

The majority of our patients currently travel to one of 22 sites across Leeds for their appointment to give a blood sample.

One in 14 patients gives their blood sample at home.

Most patients will need to give a sample 18 times a year, this means travelling to a clinic approximately every 3 weeks. Some patients may need to give more samples and some will only need to give a sample four times a year.

By answering the question below you will help us develop a service which is accessible.

**a. What THREE factors are most important when choosing the location of an anticoagulant clinic?**

All services in one place

Venues in different part of the city

Good public transport links

Disabled access

Local amenities nearby (shops, cafes etc)

Parking available nearby

Other (please specify)

**b. What do you think is an acceptable distance to travel for your blood test?**

Up to one mile

1-5 miles

6-10 miles

Over 10 miles

No preference

**c. How would you prefer to travel to your appointment?**

Public transport

Walk

Car (driver)

Car (passenger)

Cycle

Taxi

Other (please state)

**d. What days would be most convenient for you to attend an appointment?**

Mon

Tues

Wed

Thurs

Fri

Sat

Sun

**e. What times would be most convenient for you to attend an appointment?**

Mornings before 9

Morning after 9

Afternoons

Evenings (after 6)

Please share any other thoughts you have about this proposal



## 8. Summary

Here is a comparison of the services that could be offered and how they might affect you.

Service	Advantages	Comparator Cost/yr (estimate)	Who benefits?	Does not work for
<b>Warfarin: Phlebotomy and Letter.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• blood test (taken from a vein)</li> <li>• Result by letter</li> <li>• If they need a follow up they are given an urgent appointment.</li> </ul>	Short consultation  Can be offered close to home.	<b>£1m</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The majority of patients whose test results are in range.</li> <li>• Home visit patients.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Around 10 patients a week who have to attend again for urgent treatment.</li> </ul>
<b>Warfarin: Finger prick and wait for result using a portable machine.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Finger-prick test</li> <li>• Wait in clinic for the result</li> <li>• Immediate treatment if necessary</li> </ul>	Quick result  Can be offered in multiple places	<b>£7m</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Around 1 in 3 patients.</li> <li>• Patients whose results are often not in range</li> <li>• Home visit patients.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• People who don't want to, or need to wait for the result.</li> <li>• Patients who prefer phlebotomy.</li> </ul>
<b>Warfarin: Finger prick and wait for result using a stationary machine.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Finger-prick test</li> <li>• Wait in clinic for the result</li> <li>• Immediate treatment if necessary</li> </ul>	Quick result	<b>£5m</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Around 1 in 3 patients.</li> <li>• Patients whose results are often not in range</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Home visit patients.</li> </ul>
<b>Warfarin: Finger prick and letter.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Finger-prick test</li> <li>• Result by letter or wait in clinic if there are concerns</li> <li>• Immediate treatment if necessary</li> </ul>	Short consultation	<b>£1.5m</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The majority of patients whose test results are in range.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Home visit patients.</li> </ul>
<b>New Oral Anticoagulant drug.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• These patients do not take warfarin</li> <li>• One or two blood tests a year.</li> </ul>	Much less monitoring.	<b>£7m</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• About 1 in 5 patients for who warfarin does not work well.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• People who regularly forget to take their medicines.</li> </ul>

Please share any other thoughts you have about this proposal

**Filling in this section is optional, but it will help us get feedback from all the different communities in our area. All information is kept in strict confidence.**

Male <input type="checkbox"/>	Female <input type="checkbox"/>
	Disabled <input type="checkbox"/>
Lesbian/gay woman <input type="checkbox"/>	Gay man <input type="checkbox"/>
Heterosexual/Straight <input type="checkbox"/>	Bisexual <input type="checkbox"/>
Under 16 <input type="checkbox"/>	17 – 24 <input type="checkbox"/>
35 – 44 <input type="checkbox"/>	45 – 54 <input type="checkbox"/>
65 – 74 <input type="checkbox"/>	75 – 84 <input type="checkbox"/>
25 – 34 <input type="checkbox"/>	55 – 64 <input type="checkbox"/>
84+ <input type="checkbox"/>	
White British <input type="checkbox"/>	White Irish <input type="checkbox"/>
Mixed White & Black Caribbean <input type="checkbox"/>	Mixed White & Black African <input type="checkbox"/>
Asian/Asian British Indian <input type="checkbox"/>	Asian/Asian British Pakistani <input type="checkbox"/>
Black/Black British Caribbean <input type="checkbox"/>	Black/Black British African <input type="checkbox"/>
Chinese <input type="checkbox"/>	Arab <input type="checkbox"/>
	Gypsy or Irish traveller <input type="checkbox"/>
	Mixed White and Asian <input type="checkbox"/>
	Asian/Asian British Bangladeshi <input type="checkbox"/>
	Other <input type="checkbox"/>

Please return this survey by **Friday 29th February 2014** to **Chris Bridle, FREEPOST RTEG-JRZR-CLZG, NHS Leeds West Clinical Commissioning Group, Suites 2-4, WIRA House, Ring Road, West Park, LEEDS LS16 6EB.** For more information call **(0113) 8435473.**

Thank you for taking the time to fill in this survey. We will share the results of this engagement in the next few months. If you would like to know the outcome and how you have influenced the decision we make please ensure you have filled in your details on the front of this form. Alternatively visit our website for regular updates. [www.leedswestccg.nhs.uk/getting-involved](http://www.leedswestccg.nhs.uk/getting-involved)