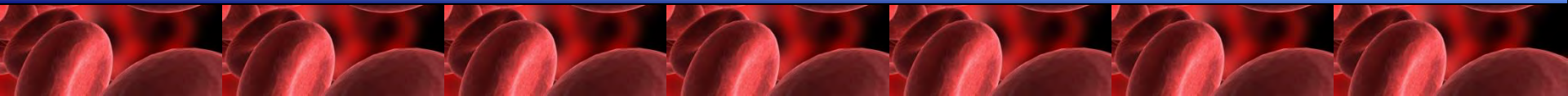


# Reversal Agents for Anticoagulation Therapy

**Thursday October 22, 2020**

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# **DISCLOSURES**

## **MEDICAL ADVISORY:**

SANOFI-GENZYME

HAEMONETICS

ARGENYX

CME OUTFITTERS

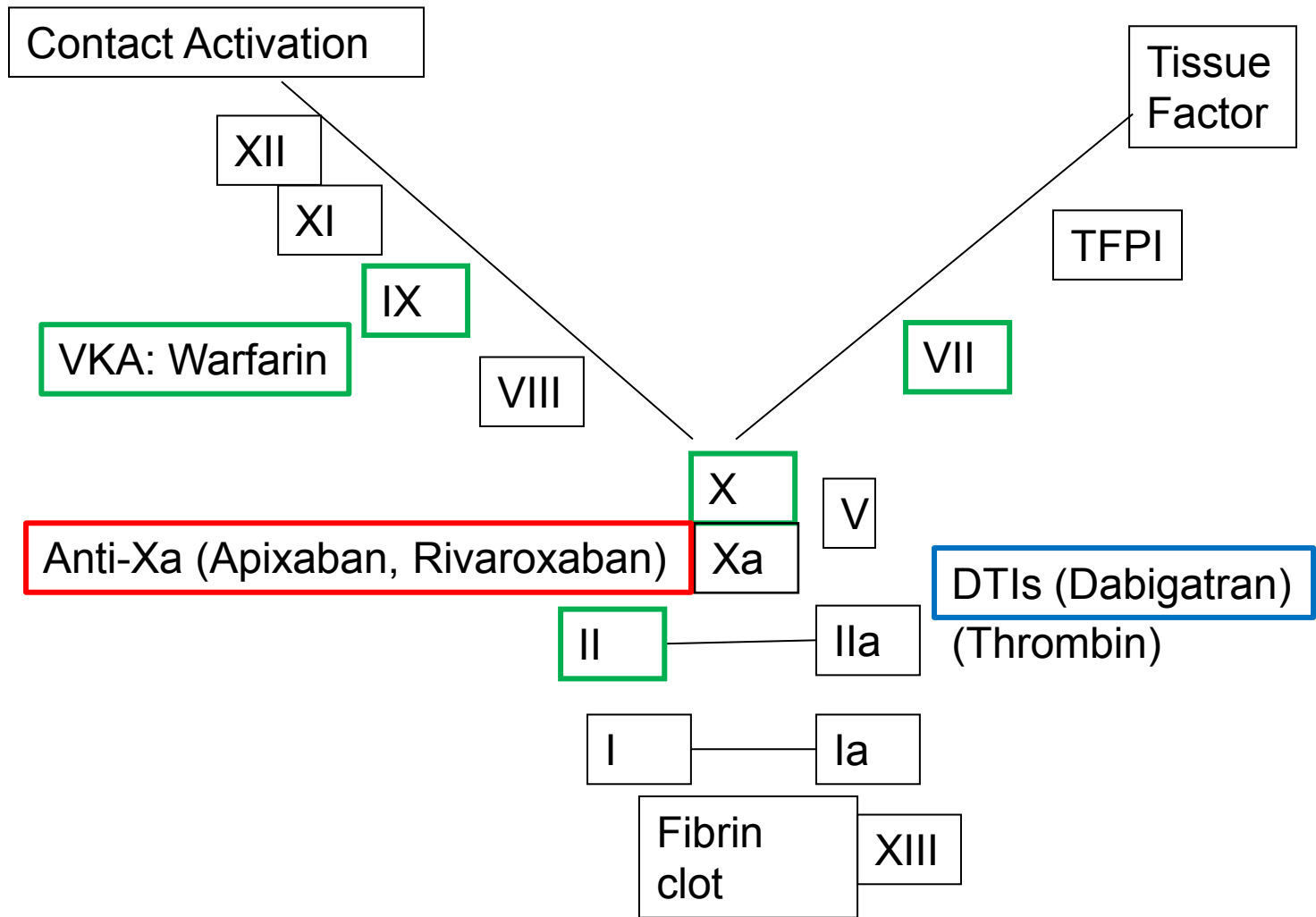
GRIFOLS

# Discussion Topics

- Clinical assessment of major hemorrhage
- Clinical evaluation of residual anticoagulant effects
- Use(fulness) of laboratory assays
- When to initiate reversal?
- Review current products used in management of anticoagulant-associated hemorrhage/anticoagulant reversal

# Introduction

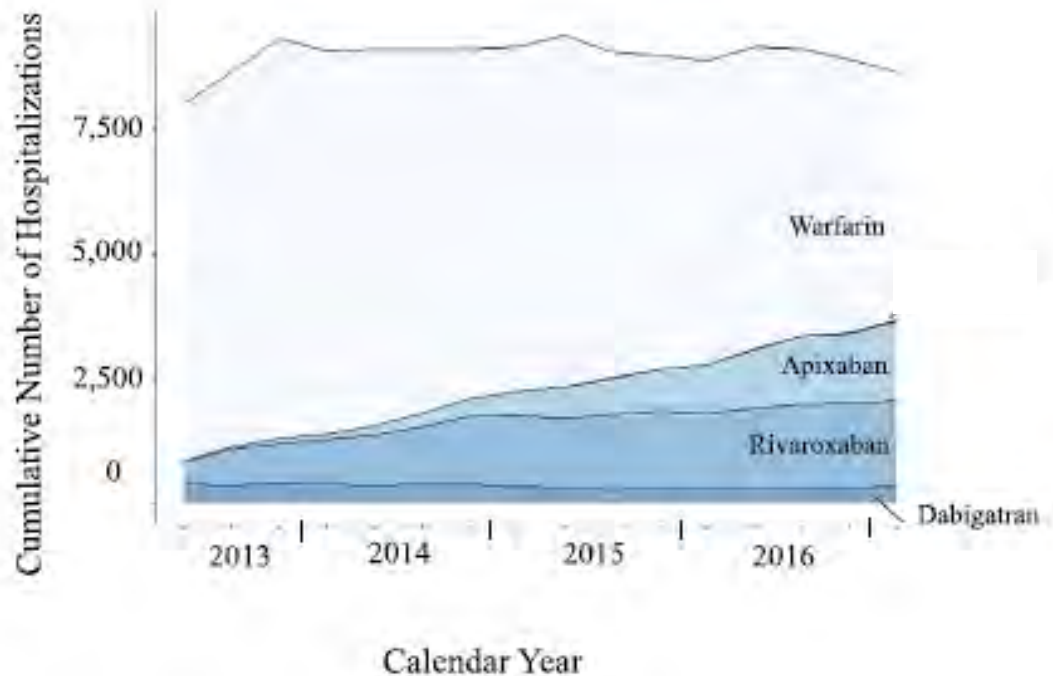
- Oral Anticoagulants (OACs)
    - Vitamin K Antagonists (VKAs): Warfarin
    - Direct OACs (DOACs): Dabigatran, Rivaroxaban, Apixaban, Edoxaban, Betrixaban
  - Increasing use, well over 6 million patients in 2018
  - RCTs and Meta-analysis: Rates of major bleeding/mortality lower in DOACs than VKAs but still a significant clinical issue
    - 7.57% with DOACs
    - 11.05% warfarin
- J Thromb Haemost. 2015;13:2012-20.



## Sites of Action of OACs

# NHLBI REDS-III Database OAC Usage Trends

W. Białkowski, et al.



**Methods:** More than 1.5 million hospitalizations were screened and 3731 patients with major hemorrhage were identified in the REDS-III Recipient Database. Propensity score matching and stratification were used to account for potentially confounding factors.

# Assessment of Bleeding: Definitions

## 🔴 Serious/Major: Interruption of AC

- Significant blood loss resulting in hemodynamic instability,  $\geq 2$  g/dl drop in Hgb, or requiring  $\geq 2$  unit RBC transfusion
- Critical site/Closed space bleeding
- Intervention, eg., surgery, IR, endoscopy

## 🔴 Minor clinically significant

- Healthcare assessment, eg, ED visit
- Often requires holding AC  
or dose adjustment but not  
AC reversal

### **Critical Sites, eg:**

ICH, other CNS  
Pericardium  
Airway, posterior epistaxis  
Neck  
Hemothorax, Abd,  
Retroperitoneum  
Extremity: Compartment,  
Joint

# Clinical Assessment

- Risk stratification for bleeding severity
  - Bleeding site: Active? || Rate of bleeding?
  - Anticoagulant, last dose? Other medications (eg., antiplatelet) that affect hemostasis?
  - Co-morbidities, esp. renal disease, hepatic disease? Thrombocytopenia?
- Determine anticoagulation state: Interval since last dose and  $t_{1/2}$  for drug
- What is indication for anticoagulant and impact of discontinuation?



# OACs: Selected Pharmacokinetic Features

| Parameter           | Warfarin   | Dabigatran  | Rivaroxaban                                     | Apixaban  |
|---------------------|--|---|---|---|
| Mechanism of action | Inhibition of VKOR                                     | Direct thrombin inhibitor (free or bound), reversible | Factor Xa inhibitor (free or bound), reversible | Factor Xa inhibitor (free or bound), reversible |
| Onset of action     | Slow, indirect inhibition of clotting factor synthesis | Fast  | Fast  | Fast  |
| Offset of action    | Long   | Short   | Short   | Short   |
| Absorption          | Rapid  | Rapid, acid-dependent                                 | Rapid   | Rapid   |
| Bioavailability (%) | 100  | 6.5   | 80*   | 50  |
| $t_{max}$ (h)       | 2.0-4.0  | 1.0-3.0   | 2.5-4.0   | 1.0-3.0   |
| $V_d$ (L)           | 10   | 60-70   | 50-55   | 21  |
| Protein binding (%) | 99   | 35  | 95  | 87  |
| $t_{1/2}$ (h)       | 40   | 12-17   | 9-13  | 8-15  |
| Renal excretion     | None   | 80  | 33  | 25  |
| Fecal excretion     | None   | 20  | 28  | 50-70   |

# Residual Activity of DOACs (since last dose)

|             | Half-life, hrs (CrCl $\geq$ 50 ml/min, Normal Hepatic Fxn)               | Times 5 Half-lives for Complete Reversal |
|-------------|--|--|
| Dabigatran  | 12-17  | 3 days                                   |
| Riveroxaban | 5-9  | 1-2 days                                 |
| Apixaban    | 8-15   | 1.5-3 days                               |
| Edoxaban    | 6-11   | 1-2 days                                 |
| Warfarin    | N/A - Loss of effect depends on VKA clearance and Factor synthetic rates | 5 days                                   |

# OAC Non-urgent Reversal (no significant bleeding)

| WARFARIN<br>(DC drug)     |   |  |
|---------------------------|---|--|
| INR < 4.5                 | INR $\geq$ 4.5 to < 10  | INR $\geq$ 10  |
| Omit dose;<br>Adjust dose | Omit 1-2 doses; Adjust dose.<br>If high bleeding risk, consider Low dose vit. K, 1-2.5 mg | Oral vitamin K 2.5-5.0 mg;<br>If NPO, consider IV vitamin K 2.5-5.0 mg |

## Periprocedural Management: Assess Bleeding Risk\*

### Warfarin

Minor surgery: Hold 2-3 days  
Major surgery: Hold 5 days

### Dabigatran

CrCl  $\geq$  50 mL/min: Hold 1-2 days  
CrCl  $\leq$  50 mL/min: Hold 3-5 days

### Apixaban, Riveroxaban, Edoxaban

Low bleeding risk: Hold at least 24 hrs  
Moderate/High bleeding risk: Hold at least 48 hours

Modified from:  
ACCP Chest 2012;41:Suppl; e152s-e184s.

\*Low risk procedures may not require holding AC: e. g., dental extraction, BMBx, cataract surgery, skin bx, etc.

# Recommended Duration of Effect of AC Based on Bleeding Severity/Risk

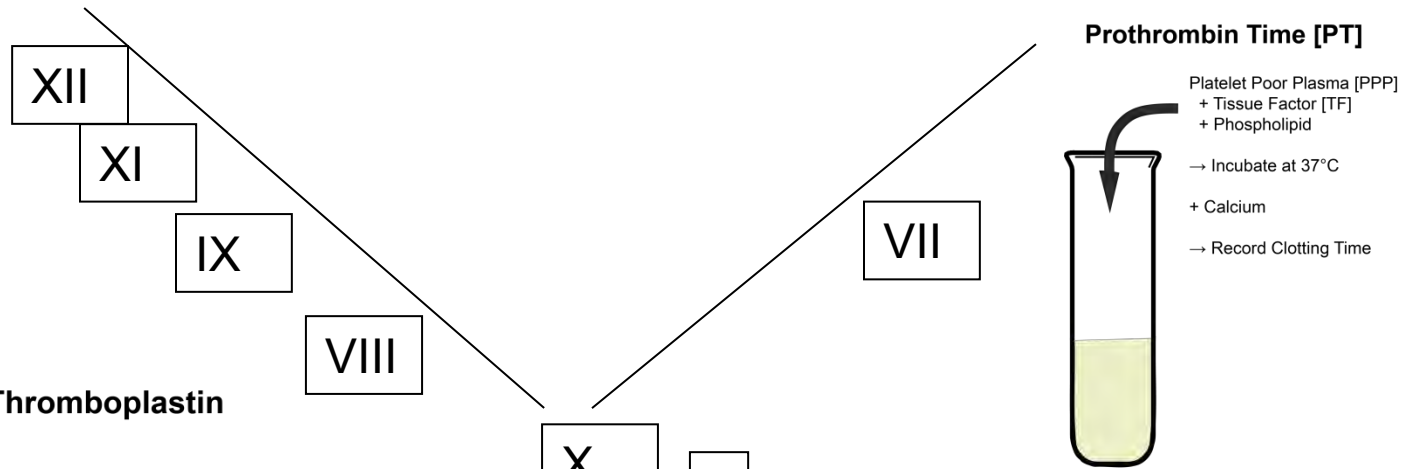
| CrCl, mL/min                     | Dabigatran |       |       |        |   | Apixaban, Betrixaban, Edoxaban, or Rivaroxaban |       |  |
|----------------------------------|------------|-------|-------|--------|---|--|-------|--|
|                                  | ≥80        | 50-79 | 30-49 | 15-29  | <15   | ≥30  | 15-29 | <15  |
| Low                              | ≥24 h      | ≥36 h | ≥48 h | ≥72 h  | No data. Consider measuring dTT and/or withholding ≥96 h. | ≥24 h  | ≥36 h | No data. Consider measuring agent-specific anti-Xa level and/or withholding ≥48 h. |
| Uncertain, intermediate, or high | ≥48 h      | ≥72 h | ≥96 h | ≥120 h | No data. Consider measuring dTT.                          | 48 h   |       | No data. Consider measuring agent-specific anti-Xa level and/or withholding ≥72 h. |

**With adequate renal function, hemostatic risk is reduced within 1 or 2 days after discontinuation of drug**

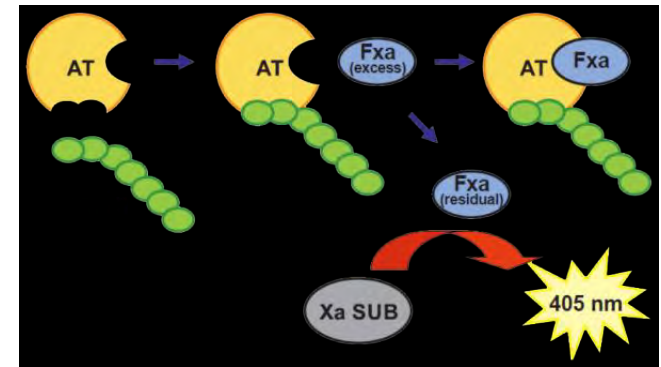
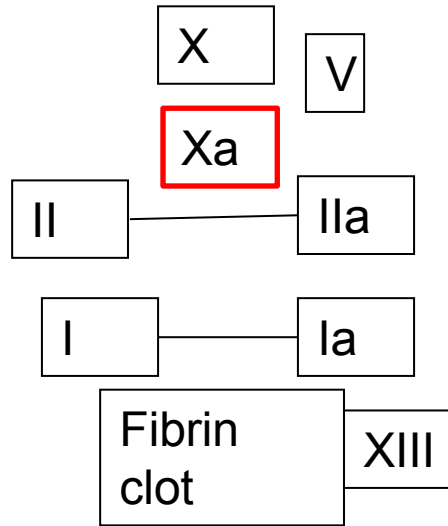
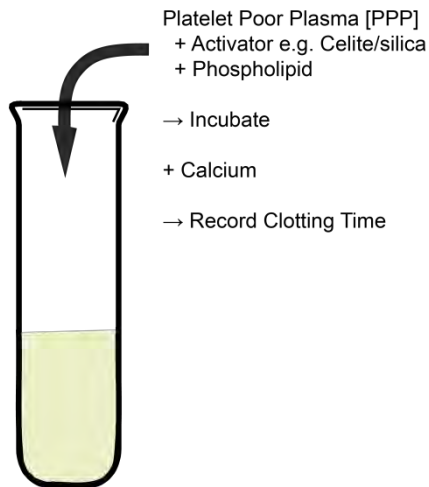
# Primer on Laboratory Assays

- 🔴 VKA: PT/INR
- 🔴 DOACS: specialized testing is not routinely indicated
  - Check PT/INR/APTT, determine time since last dose, consider renal (and hepatic) function
- 🔴 When to obtain specialized test: Does laboratory have validated or calibrated assays? If yes, consider-
  - Major Bleeding
  - Emergent invasive procedure/surgery
  - Absorption/GI issues
  - AKI/drug clearance uncertain

# PT/aPTT vs Anti-Xa

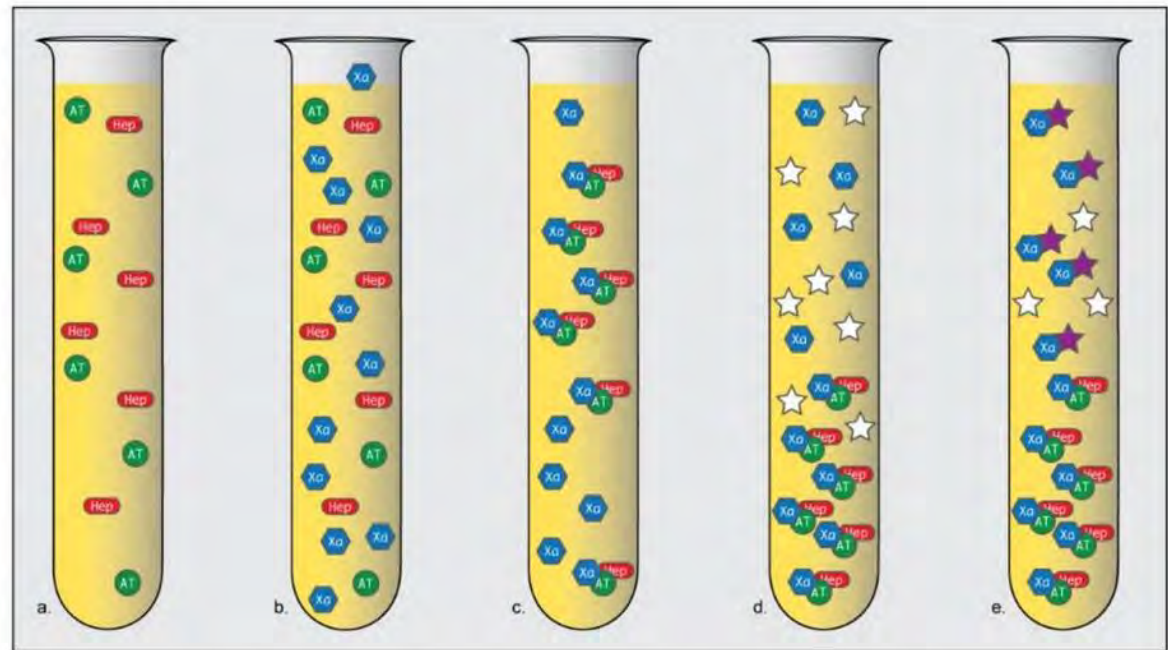


## Activated Partial Thromboplastin Time [APTT]



Anti-Xa Assay (UFH or LMWH)

# Anti-Xa Assay for UFH or LMWH



<https://blog.ucdmc.ucda-vis.edu/labbestpractice/index.php/2017/10/16/anti-factor-xa-for-monitoring-of-unfractionated-heparin-therapy/>

**Figure 1:** Overview of antifactor Xa test. A sample of heparinized patient platelet-poor plasma is obtained (a). A known amount of factor Xa is added to this sample (b) which enhances the binding of heparin and anti-thrombin (c). A chromogenic substrate is added (d) that binds to excess Xa (e), producing a color change that can be measured in a spectrophotometer. The color change is directly proportional to the amount of unbound Xa; from the degree of color change, the functional activity of heparin (inversely proportional to the color change) can be calculated. (Adapted from Mayo Medical Labs "Anti-Xa Assay for Heparin Monitoring [Hot Topic]"<sup>4</sup>.)

And can be modified for other anti-Xa inhibitors, riveroxaban and apixaban

# Expected Effects of DOACS on Clinical Coagulation Test Results | Samuelson BT, et al.

|        | Dabigatran | Apixaban | Rivaroxaban | Edoxaban |
|--------|------------|----------|-------------|----------|
| PT/INR | ↑          | ↑        | ↑↑          | ↑↑↑      |
| APTT   | ↑↑         | ↑        | ↑           | ↑        |
| TT     | ↑↑↑        | -        | -           | -        |
| dTT    | ↑↑↑        | -        | -           | -        |
| antiXa | -          | ↑↑↑      | ↑↑↑         | ↑↑↑      |

(d)TT– (dilute) Thrombin Time: Method of choice to quantify dabigatran  
 Anti-Xa: Method of choice to quantify anti-Xa inhibitors



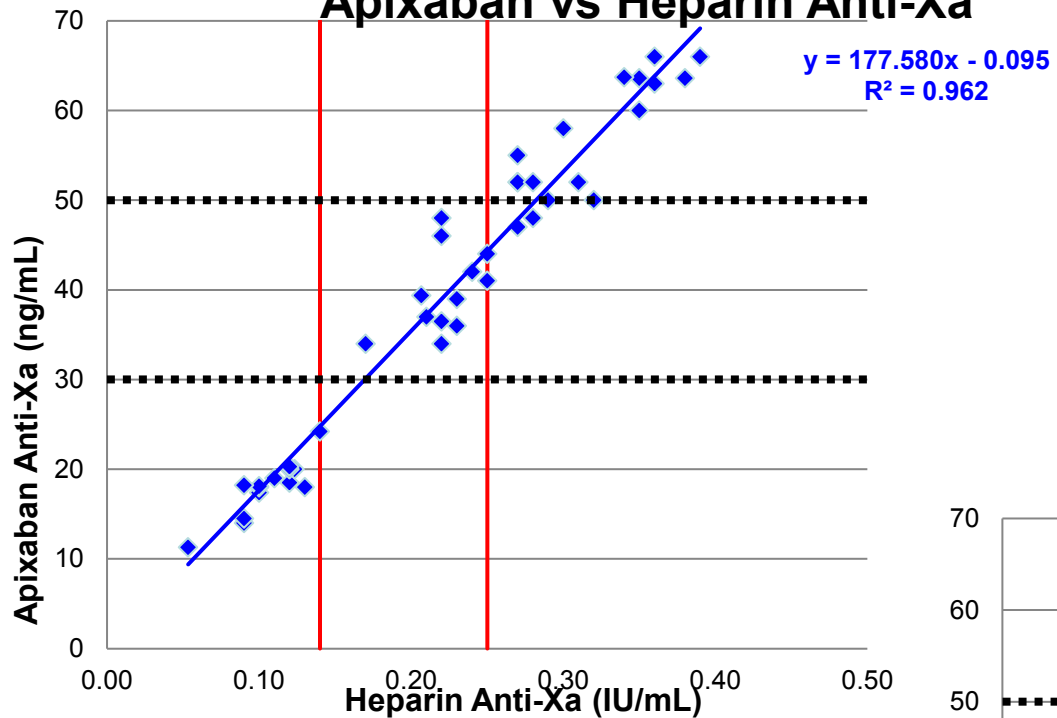


# Primer on Laboratory Assays, cont.

- 🔴 What to monitor: DTI || Dabigatran
  - Normal aPTT likely excludes excess level
  - Normal TT excludes clinically relevant level
  - Only dTT correlates with plasma concentration
- 🔴 What to monitor: Anti-Xa || Rivaroxaban, Apixaban, Edoxaban
  - Prolonged PT indicates drug presence
  - Normal (subtherapeutic) anti-Xa level for UFH (validated in laboratory) excludes clinically relevant level
  - Only calibrated anti-Xa correlates with plasma concentration

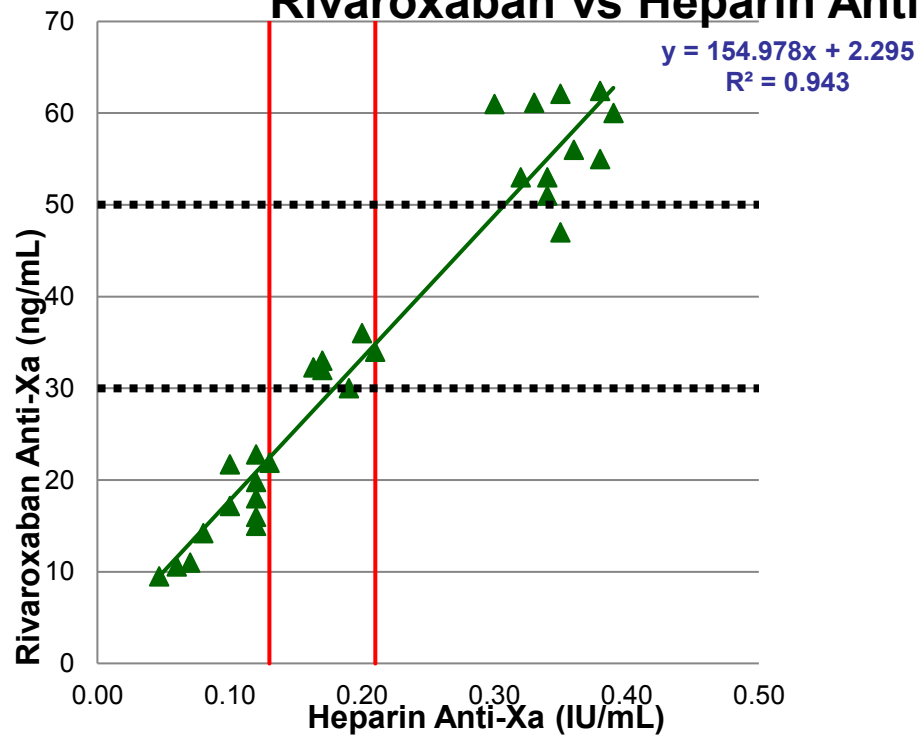
**++Normal PT/aPTT does not exclude clinically significant drug level++**

### Apixaban vs Heparin Anti-Xa



Data from J. Seheult, MD

### Rivaroxaban vs Heparin Anti-Xa

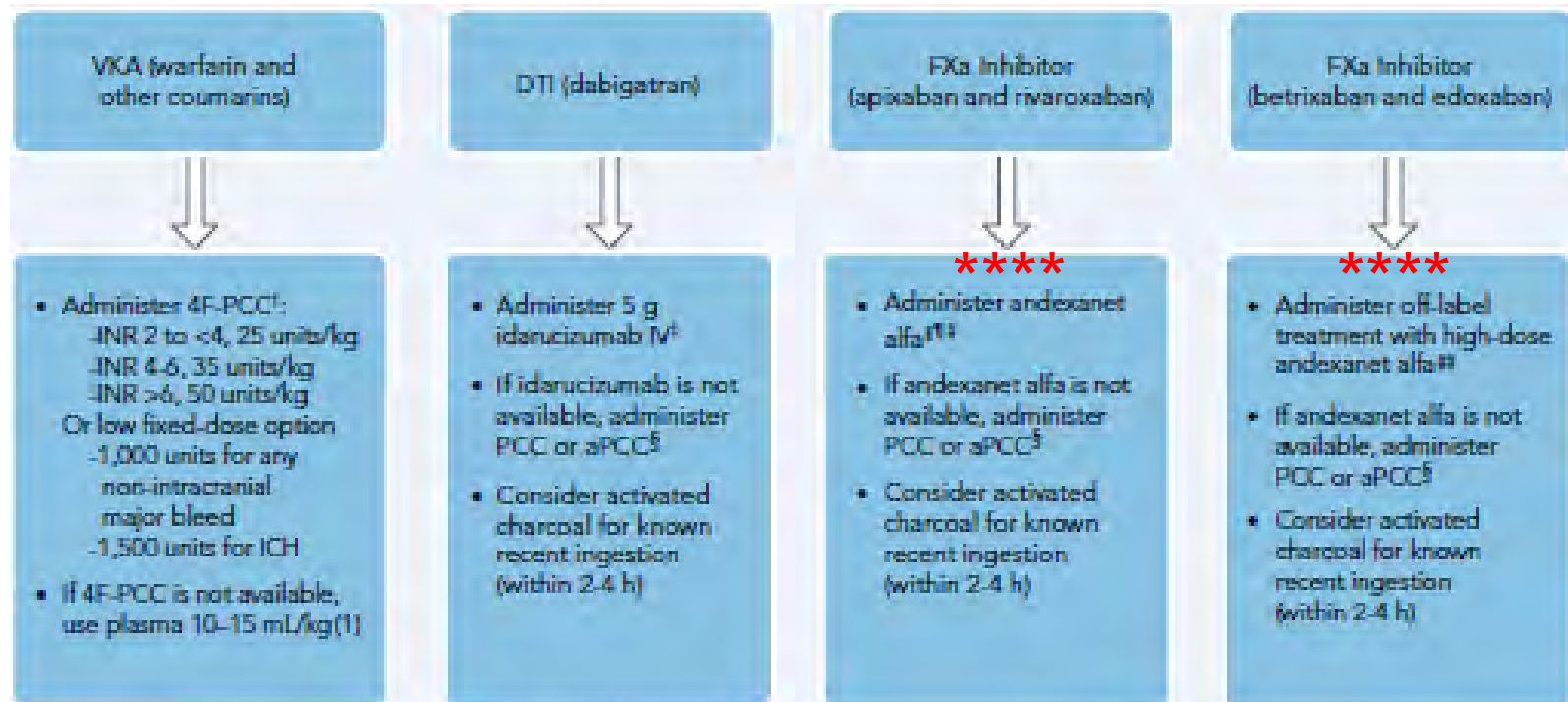


# Hemostatic Reversal Agents:

4F-Prothrombin Complex Concentrate (4F-PCC) – Contains FII, VII, IX, X

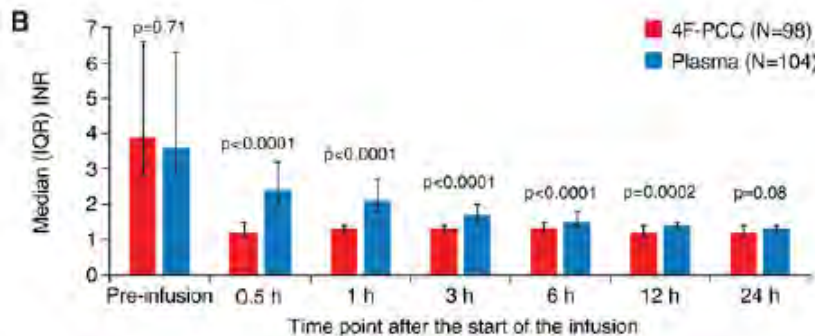
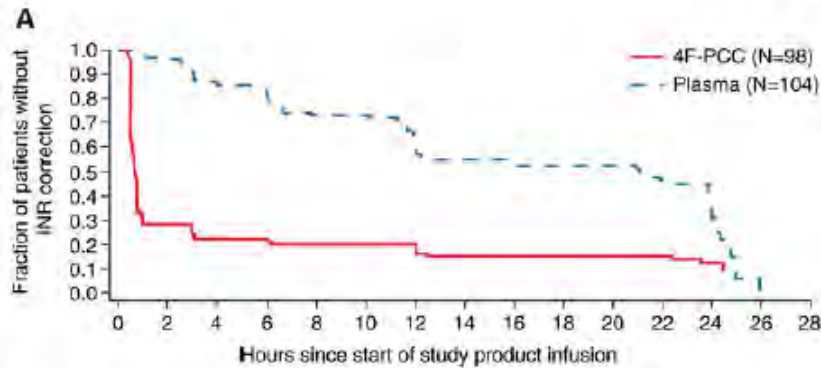
Idarucizumab – Moab binds dabigatran

Andexanet – FXa decoy – neutralizes antiXa



\*\*\*\* Andexanet requires Neurosurgery or Neurology approval per UPMC P & T Committee Policy

# INR



## 4-Factor PCC vs. Plasma in Major Bleeding – Sarode, et al.

*Circulation*. 2013 September 10; 128(11): 1234–1243.

### Hemostatic Efficacy by Time of Rating (Post Hoc Analysis; Intention-to-Treat Efficacy Population)

|   | Treatment Group |                | Difference 4F-PCC Minus Plasma, % (95% CI)* |
|---|-----------------|----------------|---|
|   | 4F-PCC (n=98)   | Plasma (n=104) |   |
| No. of bleeds assessed for hemostatic efficacy at 4 h (visible, musculoskeletal)                          | 23              | 28             |   |
| No. (%) of patients with effective hemostasis   | 19 (82.6)       | 14 (50.0)      | 32.6 (4.5 to 60.7; <i>P</i> =0.0200)        |
| No. of bleeds assessed for hemostatic efficacy at 24 h (gastrointestinal, intracranial, other nonvisible) | 75              | 76             |   |
| No. (%) of patients with effective hemostasis   | 52 (69.3)       | 54 (71.1)      | -1.7 (-17.6 to 14.2; <i>P</i> =-0.95)       |

4F-PCC indicates 4-factor prothrombin complex concentrate; and CI, confidence interval.

# Idarucizumab: A Specific Monoclonal Antibody Reversal Agent for Dabigatran: Reverse AD

**Table 2. Indications for Dabigatran Reversal.**

| Indication  | Group A<br>(N=301)*         |
|---|-----------------------------|
|   | no. of patients (%)         |
| <b>Bleeding</b>   |                             |
| Intracranial  | 98 (32.6)                   |
| Subdural  | 39 (13.0)                   |
| Subarachnoid  | 26 (8.6)                    |
| Intracerebral   | 53 (17.6)                   |
| Gastrointestinal  | 137 (45.5)                  |
| Lower   | 47 (15.6)                   |
| Upper   | 52 (17.3)                   |
| Unknown   | 42 (14.0)                   |
| Intramuscular   | 9 (3.0)                     |
| Retroperitoneal   | 10 (3.3)                    |
| Intrapericardial  | 7 (2.3)                     |
| Intraarticular  | 5 (1.7)                     |
| Intraocular   | 1 (0.3)                     |
| Other   | 52 (17.3)                   |
| Not identified  | 4 (1.3)                     |
| Trauma-related  | 78 (25.9)                   |
|   | <b>Group B<br/>(N=202)†</b> |
| <b>Reason for procedure‡</b>                                      |                             |
| Abdominal condition or infection: hernia, peritoneal infection    | 49 (24.3)                   |
| Fracture or septic arthritis: involvement of the hip or femur     | 41 (20.3)                   |
| Cardiovascular condition: pacemaker implantation, aneurysm repair | 37 (18.3)                   |
| Central nervous system condition: craniotomy                      | 17 (8.4)                    |
| Pancreatic or hepatobiliary disease: cholecystitis, cholangitis   | 14 (6.9)                    |
| Respiratory condition: chest trauma                               | 14 (6.9)                    |
| Kidney and urinary tract condition: acute renal failure           | 11 (5.4)                    |
| Septicemia or sepsis  | 8 (4.0)                     |
| Skin condition: abscess, hematoma                                 | 6 (3.0)                     |
| Postoperative complications                                       | 3 (1.5)                     |
| Uterine condition   | 1 (0.5)                     |
| Poisoning: deliberate overdose                                    | 1 (0.5)                     |

\* Patients may have had more than one type of bleeding.

† Procedure was canceled for five patients.

‡ For some categories, frequent events are listed as examples.

**Pollack CV Jr et al. N Engl J Med  
2017;377:431-441**

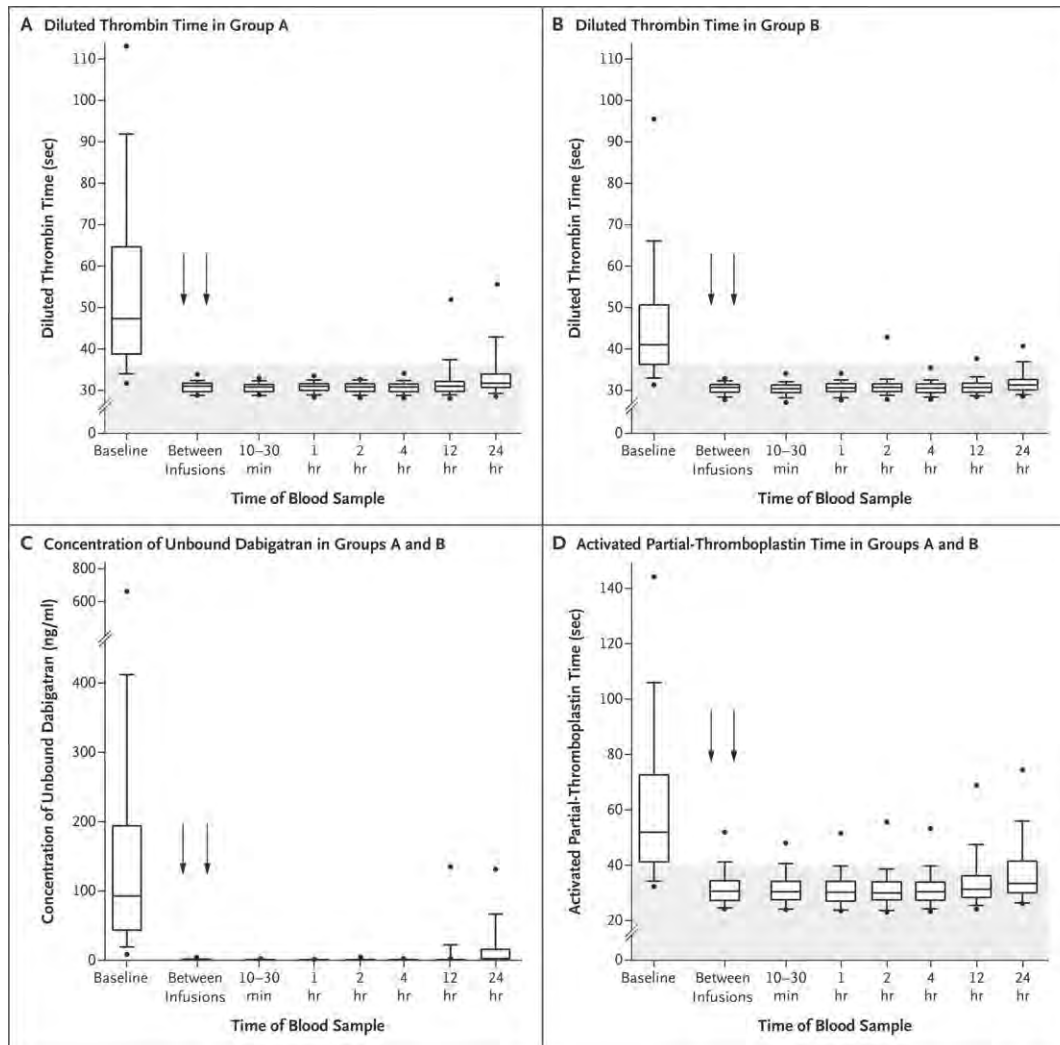
## OUTCOMES:

GROUP A. Median time to the cessation of bleeding in ICH & GIB was 2.5 hours

GROUP B. Median time to the initiation of the intended procedure was 1.6 hours; Periprocedural hemostasis was assessed as normal in 93.4% of the patients, mildly abnormal in 5.1%, and moderately abnormal in 1.5%



# Idarucizumab: Key Measurements Before and After Administration



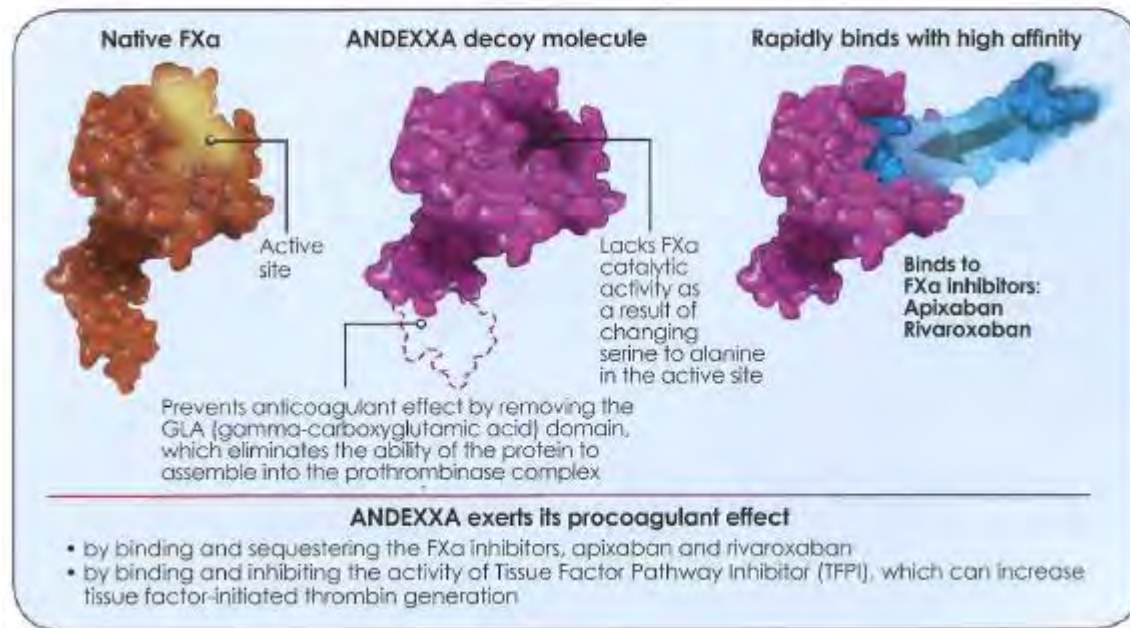
Pollack CV Jr et al. N Engl J Med 2017;377:431-441



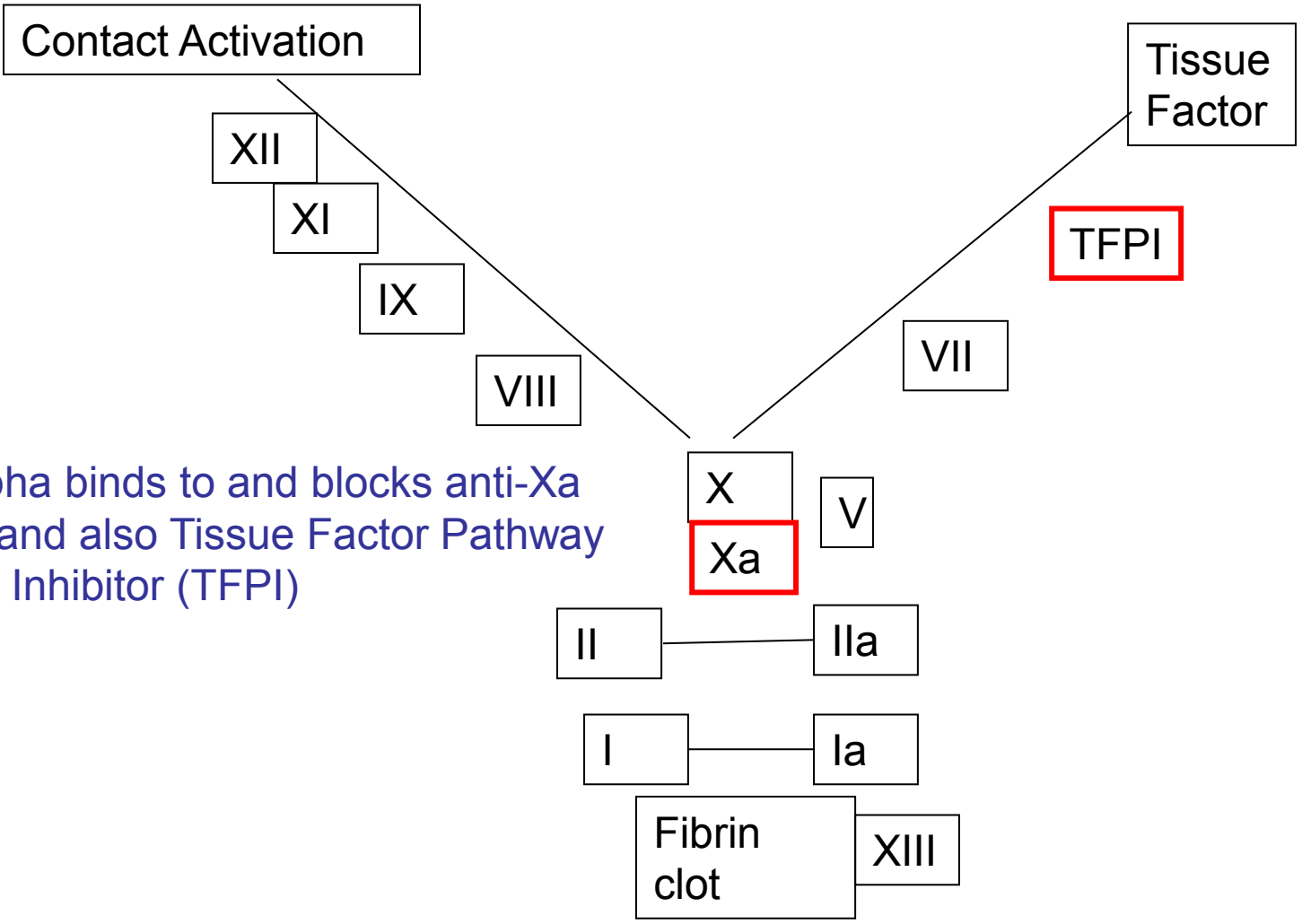
# Andexanet alpha: Specific Anti-Xa Reversal Agent

**ANDEXXA<sup>®</sup> is a modified recombinant FXa protein that binds to circulating FXa inhibitors<sup>1</sup>**

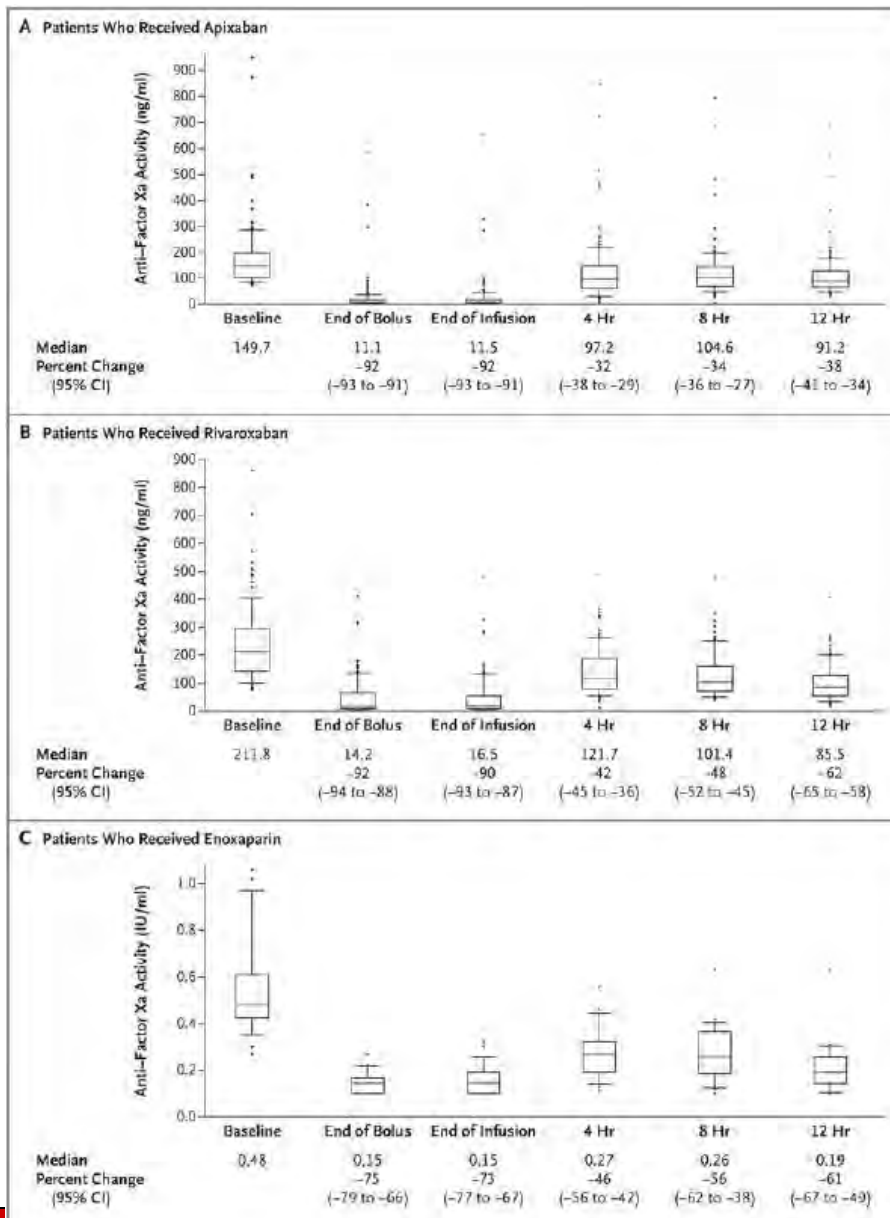
**ANDEXXA acts as a FXa decoy<sup>1,2</sup>**







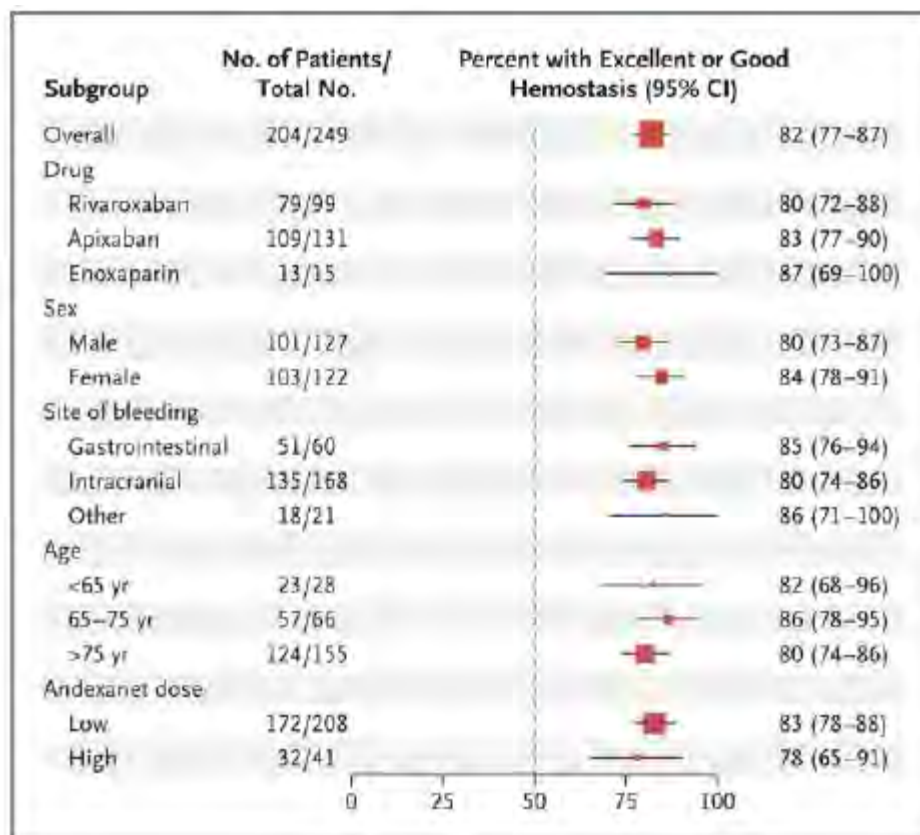
Andexanet alpha binds to and blocks anti-Xa inhibitor action and also Tissue Factor Pathway Inhibitor (TFPI)



# Andexanet alpha for Bleeding and anti-Xa Inhibitors: ANNEXA-4 Connolly SJ, et al.

- Administration of the bolus dose resulted in reversal of anti-factor Xa activity for 2-4 hours
- Inhibition of TFPI activity sustains for ~22 hours after bolus administration

# Andexanet alpha for Bleeding and anti-Xa Inhibitors: ANNEXA-4 Connolly SJ, et al.



# OAC Reversal: Summary of Options

| Reversal Agent            | Warfarin                      | Dabigatran      | Direct anti-Xa inhibitors |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|---------------------------|
| 4F-PCC (F II, VII, IX, X) | <b>1st line</b>               | 2nd line        | 2nd line                  |
| Idarucizumab              | Not indicated                 | <b>1st line</b> | Not indicated             |
| Andexanet                 | Not indicated                 | Not indicated   | <b>1st line*</b>          |
| aPCC (F II, VIIa, IX, X)  | Not indicated                 | 3rd line        | 3rd line                  |
| Plasma                    | If 3F or 4F-PCC not available | Not indicated   | Not indicated             |

4F, four factor; 3F, 3 factor; PCC, prothrombin complex concentrate; aPCC, activated prothrombin complex concentrate

\*Note only approved for rivaroxaban and apixaban

Modified from Tomaselli et al, J Am Coll Cardiol. 2017;70:3042-67.

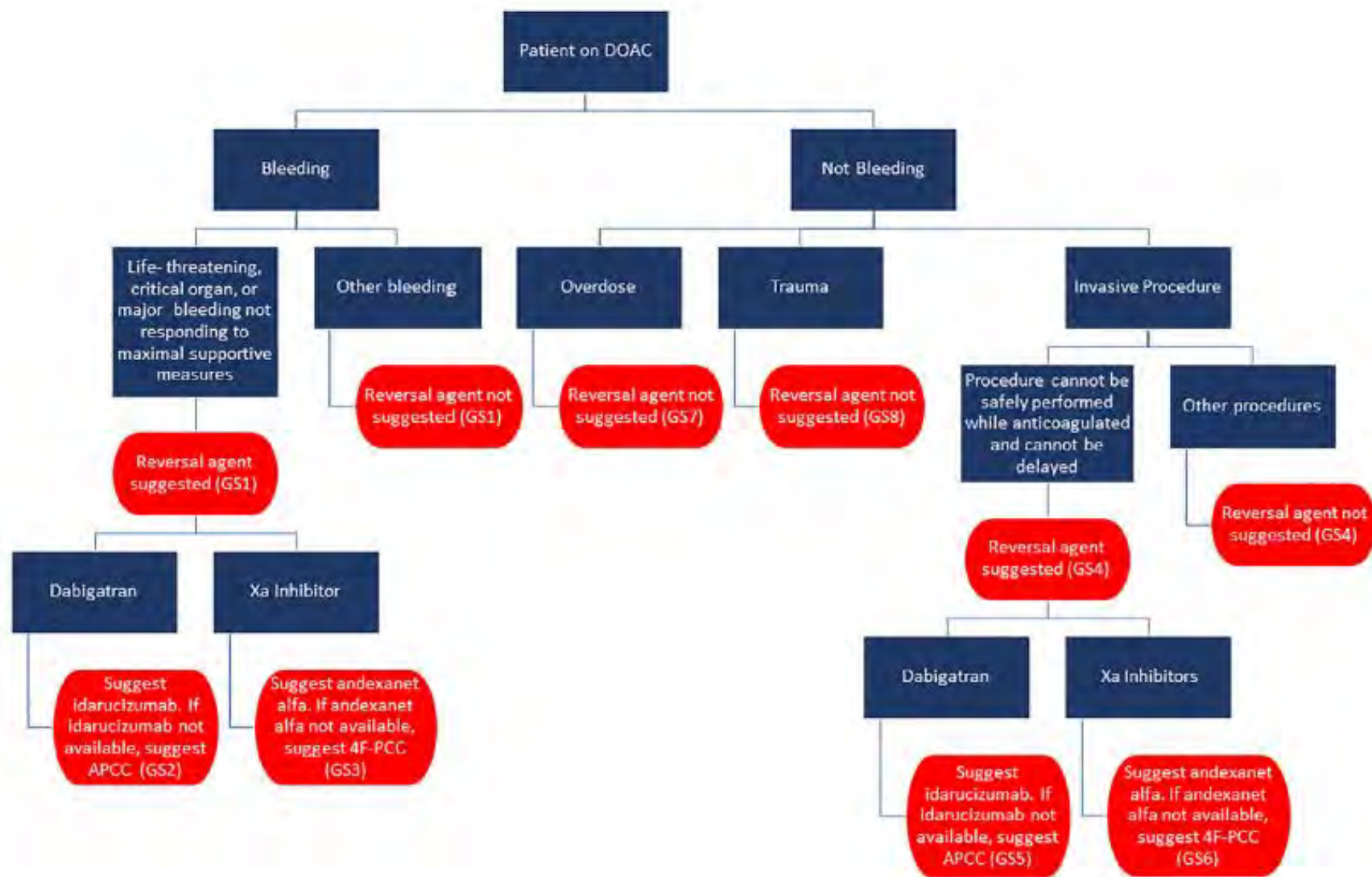
# DOAC Reversal using PCCs

- 🔴 Meta-analysis PCCs for direct FXa reversal
  - 10 studies, 340 patients
  - Effective management outcome of major bleeding in 69% compared to 83% ANNEXA-4 trial using andexanet
  - **Conclusion:** Quality of studies...makes it difficult to determine whether 4F-PCC in addition to cessation of direct oral FXa inhibitor is more effective than cessation of direct oral FXa inhibitor alone in patients with direct Fxa inhibitor–related major bleeding.

# Activated Prothrombin Complex Concentrate (aPCC) (“FEIBA”)

- 🔥 **Warnings/Precautions:** Increased risk of thromboembolic events esp. after high-doses (>200units/kg/day) and/or in patients with thrombotic risk factors (eg, DIC, atherosclerosis, crush injury, septicemia, concomitant recombinant factor VIIa).
- 🔥 Monitor patients receiving doses >100units/kg for DIC development, acute coronary ischemia, and signs/symptoms of other thromboembolic events; discontinue if occurs and treat.

# DOAC Management Guidance from the “Anticoagulation Forum”



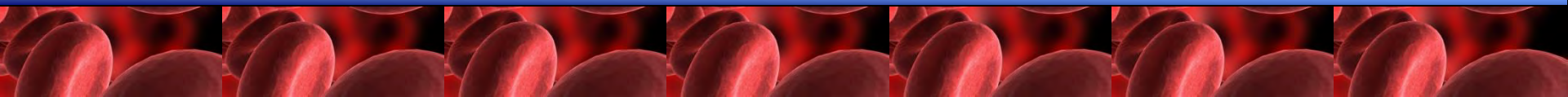
# Summary: Reversal of OACs

- For major hemorrhage
  - Stop AC and initiate measures to control bleeding source
  - Assess anticoagulant effect (interval since last dose), clinical risk, and coagulation tests
    - 2020 ACC: “For dabigatran, nl TT **or** **aPTT** usually excludes clinically relevant levels if sensitive reagents are used. Ant-Xa levels (general or drug specific) can be used to exclude clinically relevant levels for Factor Xa inhibitors”
- Specific anticoagulant reversal should be administered for life-threatening hemorrhage and considered for major bleeding that does not resolve with initial management
- Once bleeding is controlled, timely assess when/whether to restart anticoagulation



# Thank you!

[jkiss@itxm.org](mailto:jkiss@itxm.org)





vitalant 

**GIVE BLOOD**  
Save the Humans