

**POLICY AND PROCEDURE MANUAL
PHARMACY SERVICES**

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SECTION: **INPATIENT PHARMACY SERVICES**

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SUBJECT: **INPATIENT WARFARIN MONITORING**

Purpose:

Our institution has identified warfarin as a high risk/high alert medication that has the potential to cause great harm if prescribed incorrectly. Our inpatient pharmacists will identify and monitor patients on warfarin therapy in accordance to the National Patient Safety goal and to the established hospital guidelines.

Procedure:

- Inpatient pharmacist will be responsible for the following:
 - a. Review all new warfarin orders and/or new patients admitted with warfarin orders. Ensure that a baseline INR lab is ordered.
 - i. If an INR is not ordered, it will be the responsibility of the inpatient pharmacist processing the warfarin order to contact the practitioner to recommend that a baseline INR lab is ordered.
 - b. The Inpatient pharmacist will be responsible for the inpatient warfarin monitoring.
 - i. Obtain Pyxis warfarin report.
 - Pyxis report identifying all the patients on warfarin is automatically set to print Monday thru Friday. The report will be printed on the Pyxis Console printer.
 - ii. Run a daily "INR" query report in the hospital EHR system.
 - See the attached procedure
 - iii. Compare the Pyxis warfarin list to the INR list to identify the patients without INRs labs for greater than 7 days.
 - Call the practitioner and inform them that an INR has not been drawn for 7 days and recommend that they order an INR lab.
 - iv. Review the INR report for patients with INRs greater than or equal to 3.5. Once the patient with the elevated INR is identified perform the following:
 1. Page the appropriate Clinical pharmacist to determine if they are monitoring the patient. (see below)
 2. If Clinical Pharmacist is following the patient inform him/her that the patient has an abnormal INR. Document that you called the Clinical Pharmacist on the INR sheet
 3. If the Clinical Pharmacist is not following the patient or if the Clinical Pharmacist is not available (after hours and weekends) perform the following:
 - a. Review for the appropriateness of the treatment.
 - b. Review profile for Drug-Drug interactions
 - c. Call physician
 - i. Inform the practitioner of the elevated INR
 - ii. Inform the practitioner if there are potential Drug-Drug interactions.
**If the practitioner needs further assistance recommend that they write for a "Clinical Pharmacy Consult".*
 - d. Document intervention in the PharmNet system.
 - e. File the INR sheet in the "Warfarin Monitoring" notebook
- The Clinical pharmacists are responsible for inpatient warfarin monitoring for the patients that the physician has written for a "Clinical Pharmacy Consult".

Reviewed: 8/11/14bj, 4/19/2022 TT

Approved By: 