



# Anticoagulation patient advisory panel

*Are you receiving anticoagulant therapy?*

*Have you been diagnosed with atrial fibrillation?*

*Do you want to learn more about new anticoagulants?*

Join our patient advisory panel consisting of patients who have been diagnosed with atrial fibrillation and have received anticoagulant therapy.

## Anticoagulation news updates

*Receive the latest information without joining the patient advisory panel*

The Network is committed to providing information on these medications as it is available.

**If you would like to receive information on the new anticoagulants and the work of the patient advisory panel, you do not need to join the group.**

You can sign up to receive updates as they are released without obligating yourself to the patient advisory panel.

### Sign up

To join the patient advisory panel or to get updates, please email [people@slcsn.nhs.uk](mailto:people@slcsn.nhs.uk) or call us on 020 8812 5950.

## Anticoagulants and stroke prevention

In stroke prevention, patients diagnosed with atrial fibrillation (AF, the most common form of arrhythmia or abnormal heart rhythm) are typically treated with blood thinners. This reduces the risk of blood clots and the potential for a future stroke.

Currently warfarin is the most common treatment for preventing strokes in AF patients. Warfarin therapy is monitored in anticoagulation clinics.

New oral anticoagulants intended to prevent stroke will soon be released in the UK. The SLCSN is working to understand the potential implications – both clinical and financial – of the new medications.

## New patient advisory panel: Join us!

The Network is creating a new patient advisory panel which will consist of **patients who have been diagnosed with atrial fibrillation and have been prescribed warfarin.**

The patient panel will meet 3-4 times through to March 2011. The work will include:

- Developing clear patient information materials
- Analysing current services for improvement
- Understanding how anticoagulant therapies may affect lifestyle

## Panel member requirements

**Members of the group must have been diagnosed with atrial fibrillation and used warfarin.**

Members who wish to sign up for the group may be asked a few basic questions to ensure we have representation across South London. Responses will be treated confidentially.