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3 Shared decision making for stroke prevention in atrial fibrillation (SDM4Afib)
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74 **1.0 Aims**

75

76 The goal of this study is to determine the extent to which standard care plus the
77 Anticoagulation Choice tool promotes shared decision making (SDM) and impacts
78 anticoagulation uptake and adherence versus standard care without this tool in patients with
79 nonvalvular atrial fibrillation (AF).

80

81 **Aim 1. To what extent does use of the ANTICOAGULATION CHOICE tool promote**
82 **high-quality SDM versus standard care?**

83

84 Using encounter video recordings and post-visit patient and clinician questionnaires, we
85 will assess **SDM quality** (primary endpoint) **and processes**.

86

87 We hypothesize that use of the tool will improve SDM irrespective of patient
88 literacy/numeracy, stroke risk, anticoagulation use at baseline, or type of clinic.

89

90 **Aim 2. To describe the impact Anticoagulation Choice tool has on the rate of**
91 **anticoagulation, the choice of anticoagulant, and adherence to anticoagulation in at-risk**
92 **patients with AF versus the impact of standard care.**

93

94 Using medical records and pharmacy profiles, we will determine the choice of
95 anticoagulation, changes in anticoagulant use over time, and 12-month drug persistence,
96 in all patients and in subgroups defined by patient literacy/numeracy, stroke risk,
97 anticoagulation use at baseline, and type of clinic. As safety outcomes, we will monitor
98 serious bleeding or strokes requiring medical attention.

99

100 **2.0 Background and Significance**

101

102 Atrial fibrillation is the most common cardiac arrhythmia affecting ~3 million Americans^{1,2} It
103 accounts for ~\$26 billion/year in healthcare costs.³ AF-related thromboembolic strokes are
104 often devastating and a cause of great physical, social and economic burden.⁴⁻⁷ Vitamin K

105 antagonists (VKAs, e.g., warfarin) reduce the risk of stroke by ~68%.⁸⁻¹³ Recently, non-
106 VKAs oral anticoagulants (NOACs) that directly inhibit factor Xa (e.g., rivaroxaban,
107 apixaban, edoxaban) or thrombin (dabigatran) have demonstrated similar to or better efficacy
108 and safety than warfarin.¹⁴⁻¹⁶ Underuse of anticoagulation is a significant quality gap.
109 Despite patients' strong aversion to strokes,^{17,18} <50% of high-risk patients with AF receive
110 anticoagulants.¹⁹ Of these, 30-50% stop treatment within 12 months.²⁰⁻²³ The low rate of
111 anticoagulation suggests that clinicians are challenged in initiating anticoagulation, in part
112 due to clinicians' aversion to causing anticoagulation-related bleeding,^{19,24} Nonadherence
113 suggests that some patients cannot implement anticoagulation in their lives: warfarin requires
114 a stable diet and periodic laboratory (INR) monitoring,²⁵⁻²⁷ while NOACs are costly and lack
115 bleeding reversal agents.¹⁴⁻¹⁶ Underuse may result also from poor patient and clinician
116 access to, and deliberation with, individualized estimates of risks and benefits.^{28,29} Patients
117 and clinicians require support in initiating and implementing anticoagulation therapy.

118
119 In 2014, three major cardiovascular organizations formulated guidelines for the management
120 of patients with AF. They gave their strongest class I recommendation for using SDM to
121 individualize anticoagulation in at-risk AF patients.³⁰ SDM has the potential to support
122 patients and clinicians in collaborative deliberation about reasonable anticoagulation
123 strategies matched to medical risk and patient circumstance.³⁰⁻³² Nevertheless, this
124 recommendation is based on expert consensus (level C evidence) and translating it into
125 practice is challenging. The guideline provides no guidance on how to achieve this, and no
126 tools were available that are both up-to-date and proven to support SDM in this context.
127 Furthermore, we do not know what effect SDM may have on anticoagulation rates and
128 adherence in patients with AF.³⁰

129
130 We have developed and pilot tested a new online SDM tool (Anticoagulation Choice) to
131 implement the 2014 class I recommendation in usual practice. The tool promotes a SDM
132 conversation in the clinical encounter between the expert on important issues that bear on
133 adherence, the patient, and the expert in medical issues, the clinician. Deliberating together
134 on patient-important issues and medical matters, patients and clinicians can arrive at an
135 evidence-based option that patients' value and can implement. Building on this experience,

136 we propose to implement SDM using the Anticoagulation Choice tool and evaluate its impact
137 on SDM quality and on the rate by which patients take up anticoagulation and implement it
138 in their lives.

139

140 **3.0 Preliminary Work**

141

142 The anticoagulation decision requires a conversation that discusses *both* the patient’s risk of
143 strokes and the issues that distinguish agents by fit with patient goals and situation. Using our
144 user-centered design process, we created Anticoagulation Choice, a decision aid designed to
145 support the recommendation for SDM for anticoagulation in AF. The development of the
146 anticoagulation choice tool was built on 10 years of experience in designing decision aids
147 that promote shared decision making and provide evidence-based content. The evidence-
148 based content for this tool comes from systematic and expert reviews of randomized trials,
149 observational studies, and qualitative studies.^{30, 33-42} Simultaneously, we conducted 16 direct
150 observations in primary and specialty clinics of clinical encounters in which anticoagulation
151 decisions took place. The goal of these observations was to identify areas of opportunity to
152 improve extant conversations.⁴³ The first “low-fidelity prototype”⁴⁴ was a rough-draft paper
153 version and was field-tested within 8 clinical encounters. Iterations followed, first on paper,
154 and then electronically, seeking to achieve patient engagement in the conversation. We
155 judged this to have taken place when patients asked questions or made statements
156 considering how anticoagulation would play out in their daily lives. An electronic version
157 was necessary to ensure risk tailoring for each patient and to facilitate updating (we designed
158 the tool to accommodate new evidence and new agents) and distribution. The online version
159 supports conversations with patients who are new to anticoagulation as well as former and
160 current warfarin users. Its use in field-testing required minimal support. The baseline risk,
161 tailored to the patient using the CHA₂DS₂-VASc score (a tool that estimates risk of stroke), is
162 shown using words, numbers, and a 100-person pictograph along with the expected risk
163 reduction with anticoagulation. If this benefit is compelling to the patient consideration
164 moves on to the salient issues differentiating the available options. The issue cards include
165 the risk of bleeding (based on HASBLED, a tool that estimates risk of bleeding), availability
166 of reversal agents, and practical considerations. Practical considerations include how each

167 choice affects patients' ability to be active, to travel, to eat a variety of meals, how the
168 medicine is taken and its effects monitored, and what are the out-of-pocket costs. The final
169 version of the tool is focused on the discussion of these issues after considering the risk of
170 stroke and the risk reduction with anticoagulation. The tool is web-based and will be
171 integrated where possible with the electronic workflow.

172

173 **4.0 Research Design & Methods**

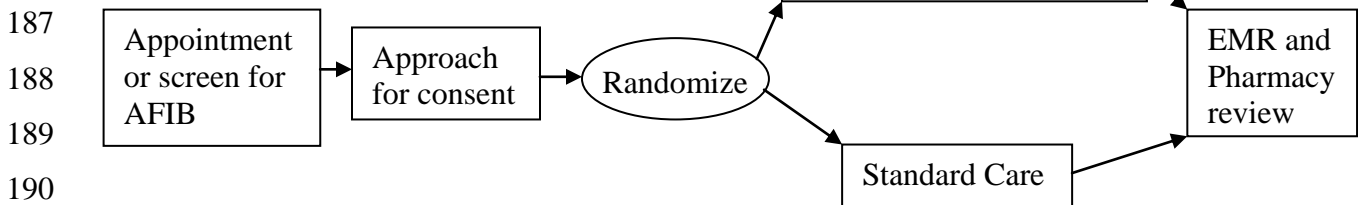
174

175 We will conduct a multicenter randomized trial at the patient level comparing the
176 Anticoagulation Choice tool and standard care versus standard care alone where enrolled
177 clinicians will administer the intervention among patients with nonvalvular AF deemed at
178 high risk of thromboembolic strokes. The study will assess the impact of the interventions on
179 SDM quality and impact on anticoagulation use as well as monitoring safety concerns of
180 strokes and bleeds. Also, as part of this trial, clinician training sessions will be evaluated to
181 describe the normalization process of anticoagulation decision aid in the clinical sites. Data
182 collection will include medical record review, survey completion, and note taking or
183 video/audio recording of the clinical encounter and training sessions.

184

185 **4.1 Schema**

186



192 **4.2 Study Setting and Participation**

193

194 The trial will take place in clinics at Mayo Clinic (academic medical center), Park Nicollet
195 Health Partners (urban/suburban community medical center), Hennepin County Medical
196 Center (safety-net inner-city medical center), UAB Medicine - The University of Alabama at

197 Birmingham and University of Mississippi Medical Center that treat patients with atrial
198 fibrillation.

199

200 At each recruiting location designated site staff will be trained to review informed consent
201 documents and obtain necessary signatures from patients and clinicians and will be observed
202 doing so, by study personnel or research staff, prior to actually consenting patients or clinicians.

203

204 4.2.1 Eligibility Criteria for Clinicians

205

206 All clinicians (MDs, NP/PAs, PharmDs) that are responsible for the modality of
207 Anticoagulation in eligible AF patients at participating sites, without exclusion.

208

209 4.2.1.1 Enrollment of Clinicians

210

211 The research team and site champions will present an overview of the study at a department
212 meeting. The informed consent document will be reviewed with interested clinicians before
213 the clinician receives training on using the decision aid at the initial recruitment meeting or at
214 their convenience throughout the duration of the study, prior to their first enrolled patient.
215 Study staff will observe the clinician trainings, described in 4.2.1.2. The clinician will have
216 the option to consent to recordings (video/audio or audio only) of clinical encounters with
217 enrolled patients. If the clinician declines to do the recording they are still eligible for
218 participation within the study. If the clinician agrees to recording of the clinical encounters
219 on the consent they can still decline at time of the clinical encounter.

220

221 The study coordinator will quickly setup and start recording before leaving the room. The
222 participants can stop this recording (video, aimed at the desk, or audio when the video
223 camera is aimed at the ceiling) at any time (the device has a large red start/stop button and an
224 on/off indicator light).

225

226 Consent only needs to occur one time (prior to being trained to use the decision aid and prior
227 to the visit with the first enrolled patient). There will be no monetary or other sort of

228 reimbursement for clinicians participating in the trial. The participation of clinicians as
229 subjects will not affect their current or future employment or be shared with their supervisor.

230 4.2.1.2 Training of Clinicians

231
232 Study personnel will do a demonstration in the use of the decision aid during in-person
233 visits with participating clinics. Training session proceedings will be documented using
234 discretionary video photographing, recording, or note-taking. Clinicians will complete a
235 brief survey after trainings to describe promoting and inhibiting factors to the
236 normalization of the anticoagulation decision aid in clinical practice. Similarly, transcripts
237 and notes from trainings will undergo qualitative analysis to identify promoting and
238 inhibiting factors to the implementation of the shared decision making tool in the clinical
239 sites. Study personnel may also do a reminder of how to use the decision aid as needed
240 (including just-in-time training) or in response to deviations in the quality of delivery
241 observed on video/audio recordings. Brief video clips and storyboards that demonstrate the
242 basic use of decision aids are publicly available at <http://shareddecisions.mayoclinic.org> for
243 clinicians to review at their convenience.

244
245

246 4.2.2 Eligibility Criteria for Patients

247

248 Each criterion must be addressed and documented in the patient's case report form for
249 eligibility assessment by the study coordinator. No waivers or exemptions to any eligibility
250 criteria will be permitted.

251

252 **Inclusion Criteria:**

- 253 1. ≥ 18 years of age
- 254 2. Nonvalvular AF deemed at high risk of thromboembolic strokes (CHA₂D₂-VAsc
255 Score ≥ 1 in men, or 2 in women).
- 256 3. Able to read and understand (despite cognitive, sensorial, hearing or language
257 challenges) the informed consent document as determined by the study coordinator
258 during consent.

259

260 **Exclusion Criterion**

- 261 1. Clinician indicates that patient is not a candidate for a discussion about
262 anticoagulation medication.
263 2. Cognitive impairments
264 3. Mechanical values
265 4. Left appendage occlusion devices (example: Watchman)
266 5.

267

268 4.2.3 Identification of Subjects

269

270 Participants for all aims will be patients, their caregivers when pertinent, and clinicians.
271 Participation is completely voluntary and we have procedures in place, sanctioned by the Mayo
272 Clinic Institutional Review Board, Hennepin County Medical Center Institutional Review Board
273 (HCMC), Park Nicollet Health Partners Institutional Review Board, UAB Medicine - The
274 University of Alabama at Birmingham Institutional Review Board and University of Mississippi
275 Medical Center Institutional Review Board to ensure that participants have the opportunity to opt
276 out at any time and will not be further approached for participation or to provide data.

277

278 At the Mayo Clinic site, upcoming appointment lists for Atrial Fibrillation (AF) patients in
279 primary care, cardiology, neurology, thrombophilia and anticoagulation clinics ECG result
280 lists, medical records and clinician referrals will be reviewed for patient eligibility. Eligible
281 patients will be approached and recruited in person, in a private location (i.e., clinic/exam
282 room) prior to their appointment. Consent will occur by a trained research member as long
283 as needed and until all questions by the subject have been answered. All study activities
284 will occur within scheduled appointments, avoiding the need for additional research visits.

285

286 The patient and caregivers (if present), will be asked to provide consent to the recording
287 (video/audio or audio only) of the clinical encounter. If the patient chooses to decline the
288 recording they are still eligible to participate in the study. The study coordinator will
289 quickly setup and start recording before leaving the room. The participants can stop this

290 recording (video, aimed at the desk, or audio when the video camera is aimed at the
291 ceiling) at any time (the device has a large red start/stop button and an on/off indicator
292 light).

293
294 The consent process will include the patient signing authorization to release protected
295 health information forms to allow study personnel to obtain pharmacy prescription records
296 and medical records from outside clinics. If a patient declines to sign an authorization form,
297 he/she will still be eligible for the study but will be excluded from the analysis where
298 information about medication and/or other medical records use is necessary (i.e. adherence
299 analysis). The research team will contact the pharmacies and outside clinics for follow-up,
300 so the patient will not be burdened with additional measures. There will be no monetary or
301 other sort of reimbursement for participants.

302

303 **4.3 Registration and Randomization of Patients**

304

305 Prior to registering patients to the study, all of the eligibility criteria on the eligibility
306 checklist will have been met.

307

308 Patients will be randomized by the study coordinator after completion of standard informed
309 consent for participation in clinical research including permission to use protected health
310 information.

311

312 Registration/randomization is available via REDCap
313 (<https://redcap1.mayo.edu/redcap/index.php>), this is a secure, web-based application that is
314 HIPPA compliant. Registration/randomization is available 24 hours a day via the REDCap
315 website. Site staff will be provided a login and password by the study statistician.

316

317 Prior to accessing the REDCap website, site staff should verify the following:

- 318 • All eligibility criteria have been met.
- 319 • Informed consent has been obtained.
- 320 • Site staff has access to REDCap.

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4.4 Intervention

In the intervention group, clinicians will conduct the encounter per standard care procedures with the addition of having access to the Anticoagulation Choice tool. The tool will be accessed online or through an available link in the Electronic Medical Record (EMR). Patient information to complete the calculators of risk (CHA₂DS₂-VASc) and bleeding (HAS-BLED; if needed) are: history of hypertension, congestive heart failure, stroke, vascular disease, diabetes mellitus, renal disease, liver disease, prior or predisposition to bleeding, unstable and/or high INR, whether the patient takes a medication predisposing him or her to bleeding, and the number of alcoholic drinks per week will be entered by the clinician into the tool or will be uploaded from the patients EMR to the tool and a personalized risk will be calculated (**Table 1**). CHA₂DS₂-VASc score of 0: recommend no antithrombotic therapy. CHA₂DS₂-VASc score of 1: recommend antithrombotic therapy with oral anticoagulation or antiplatelet therapy but preferably oral anticoagulation. CHA₂DS₂-VASc score ≥ 2 : recommend oral anticoagulation.² A HAS-BLED score of ≥ 3 indicates that caution is warranted when prescribing oral anticoagulation and regular review is recommended.² Patients can request to receive a printed copy of the tool from their clinician which they can use later to share their decision with others, and to review, confirm or revisit their decision.

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Table 1. Assessment of Stroke (CHA₂DS₂-VASc)¹⁴ and Bleeding Risk (HAS-BLED)¹⁵ in Atrial Fibrillation Patients

CHA ₂ DS ₂ -VASc	Score	HAS-BLED	Score
Congestive heart failure	1	Hypertension (SBP >160 mm Hg)	1
Hypertension	1	Abnormal renal and liver function ^b	1 or 2
Age ≥ 75 y	2	Stroke	1
Diabetes mellitus	1	Bleeding tendency/predisposition ^c	1
Stroke/TIA/TE	2	Labile INRs (if on warfarin) ^d	1
Vascular disease ^a	1	Elderly (e.g., age >65 y)	1
Aged 65 to 74 y	1	Drugs or alcohol (1 point each) ^e	1 or 2
Sex category (i.e., female sex)	1		

Maximum score	9	Maximum score	9
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Acronym def.: TIA indicates transient ischemic attack; TE, thromboembolic; and INR, international normalized ratio.

- a- Prior myocardial infarction (MI), peripheral artery disease (PAD), or aortic plaque.
- b- Abnormal renal function is classified as the presence of chronic dialysis, renal transplantation, or serum creatinine ≥ 200 mmol/L. Abnormal liver function is defined as chronic hepatic disease (eg, cirrhosis) or biochemical evidence of significant hepatic derangement (bilirubin 2 to 3 times the upper limit of normal, in association with aspartate aminotransferase/alanine aminotransferase/alkaline phosphatase 3 times the upper limit normal, etc). 1 point for each.
- c- History of bleeding or predisposition (anemia).
- d- Labile INR (ie, time in therapeutic range <60%).
- e- Concomitant antiplatelets or nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs, or excess alcohol.

4.5 Standard Care

The clinician will conduct the encounter per their standard of care. As access to the tool will be available to ensure contamination does not occur the study coordinator will inform the clinician prior to entering the room that the patient is to receive standard care and that the tool is not to be accessed.

4.6 Data Collection

Patients approached by study staff that agrees to participation will be captured in the remote data capture system (REDCap⁴⁵). Potential eligible patients found to be ineligible or eligible but decline participation will be captured in a recruitment tracking log. The reason for ineligibility or reason for decline will be captured along with patients' age, sex, and race/ethnicity.

Self-reported responses from patients and clinicians will be collected at the end of the clinical encounter. At the time of their enrollment clinicians will complete a survey that collects data on their demographics. The post baseline survey will be given to the patient and clinician to complete at the clinic at the end of the encounter by the study coordinator or site appointed staff. Patients may be given the option to fill out part of the survey, prior to their visit if time allows. If a patient requests a return envelope, one will be provided to return the survey by mail. If the survey is not received in the 10 days post encounter a

382 reminder will be mailed to them with a copy of the survey along with a return envelope. A
383 courtesy call will be made within 5 days post the mailing. Every effort will be made to
384 complete the survey at the clinic immediately post encounter as this is the best chance for
385 complete data collection. Another option for patients will be to have a follow up phone call
386 approximately 1-2 days after their clinical encounter, to remind the patient to send their
387 survey back or they will be given the option to complete their survey over the phone at that
388 time.

389
390 Data from the medical record will be abstracted for all enrolled patients to capture
391 demographic, clinical and medication prescription data. The time frame for collection will
392 be from prior to enrollment to 12 months post enrollment. For patients that do not have
393 any encounters at the institution for the past 12 months, a scan will be conducted up to 6
394 months after the 12-month timeline to verify continuity of care at the institution, change in
395 contact information and/or survival status. If no records are available at that time, we will
396 call the patient (number of attempts as authorized by each IRB), followed by a postal
397 survey if nonresponse persist.

398
399 Data to be collected on patients include variables necessary to estimate the risk of stroke
400 and bleeding, age, gender, BMI, smoking status, alcohol consumption, marital status,
401 annual income of household, highest level of education, residency (nursing home), location
402 of primary healthcare and total number of medications patients is currently taking. To
403 further characterize the patients, we will use Chew et al single-item health literacy
404 screener,⁴⁶ a 4-item modified Subjective Numeracy Scale,^{47, 48} and a single-item health
405 status measure.⁴⁹

406
407 We will collect information on past use of anticoagulants through medical record review.
408 We will categorize the patients into two cohorts for descriptive and analytical purposes.
409 For patients who are not using an anticoagulant at the time of trial participation will form
410 the 'Start' cohort. They may have used anticoagulation and discontinued >6 months ago,
411 never used anticoagulation, or are using aspirin only. Patients that began an anticoagulant

412 within the past 10 days of the enrolled encounter that were prescribed an anticoagulant
 413 within the emergency department or an inpatient visit will still be considered a new ‘Start’.

414
 415 Patients who are on warfarin or NOACs or used them in the past 6 months will form the
 416 ‘Review’ cohort. This cohort may include patients who have difficulty maintaining a
 417 therapeutic INR, or patients considering switching to a different anticoagulant or to stay on
 418 warfarin but switch to home INR monitoring.

419
 420 The post consent survey for clinicians will collect demographic data (age, gender,
 421 specialty, % of their practice dedicated to anticoagulation care).

422
 423 **Calendar of Events**

	Prior to Study Enrollment	Prior to Encounter		Post Encounter	12 months Post Enrollment
Patient Completed Forms			R A N D O M I Z E D T R I E S		
Informed Consent	X				
Pharmacy Consent	X				
Survey				X	
Phone ¹					X
Clinician Completed Forms					
Informed Consent	X				
Survey		X		X	
Clinical Data Abstracted from EMR					
Bleeds					X
Strokes					X
INR Tests (# and values outside of 2-3 range)					X
Anticoagulation Prescription		X		X	X
Pharmacist Request					
Anticoagulation					X ²

Use					
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- 424 1- Patients who do not have utilization within enrolling healthcare system will be contacted via phone for
425 verification of safety data (strokes and bleeds). If no information in the record and follow-up is necessary
426 we will call patients the maximum number allowed by the IRB followed by a postal survey
427 2- Pharmacist records will be requested for 12 months prior to enrollment through 10 months post enrollment.
428

429 **4.7 Outcome Measures**

430

431 4.7.1 SDM quality

432

433 SDM quality will measure (a) knowledge transfer; (b) concordance; (c) quality of
434 communication and satisfaction with shared decision making; and (d) satisfaction with the
435 decision-making process.

436

437 Knowledge transfer is 6 questions about AF and anticoagulation. The 6 questions use a
438 response format “true / false / do not know”, and are answered with full access to the
439 decision aids since they are not meant to test recall. Correct responses will be summed and
440 divided by the total number of questions asked. If a patient answers at least 1 knowledge
441 question then they will be assessed for this outcome, where all missing responses will be
442 coded as incorrect.

443

444 Knowledge of risk will contain one question that asks patients to estimate their own risk of
445 stroke. Correct answers will be within $\pm 10\%$ (strict score) and $\pm 30\%$ (liberal score)
446 *relative* to the calculated risk estimate.

447

448 Collaborative agreement will assess decision concordance between the patient and the
449 clinician. Both the patient and clinician will be asked to report about what decision
450 (anticoagulation no/yes-which one) was made during the index visit. Agreement will be
451 calculated between both parties and reported.

452

453 Patient decision satisfaction will be assessed using the Decisional Conflict Scale (DCS).⁵⁰

454 ⁵¹ The 16 items of DCS are scored on a 0-4 scale; the items are summed, divided by 16 and

455 then multiplied by 25. The scale is from 0-100 where higher scores are reflective of
456 uncertainty about the choice. There are 5 DCS subscales, where a DCS subscale consists of
457 3 questions (1 subscale of 4). If 2 of 3 (or 3 of the 4) questions within a subscale have
458 responses, then the patient would be considered as a responder and a score could be
459 calculated. If more than one response per subscale is missing then that specific subscale is
460 not calculated for the patient. An overall DCS score can be calculated if no more than 5
461 responses are missing as long as each missing response falls into a different subscale.

462
463 Quality of Communication will be assessed with a modified version of three questions
464 from the CAHPS Clinician and Group survey⁵². CAHPS surveys include questions to
465 assess patient perspectives of communication with their clinician. These questions indicate
466 the extent to which the communication is patient-centered. Three questions ask about
467 specific aspects of technical (explain things in a way you could understand) and affective
468 (show respect for what you have to say) communication. Each item is assessed on a 3
469 point scale (Yes, definitely; Yes, somewhat and No) that will be individually reported, no
470 composite score will be done. Three modifications are made to improve the relevance of
471 the items to the present study: (1) Instructions were changed from “These questions ask
472 about your most recent visit with this doctor. Please answer only for your own health care.”
473 to “Thinking of the conversation you just had with your clinician about blood thinners
474 (anticoagulation medications), please select the most appropriate response to each item
475 below.” (2) “During your most recent visit” was removed from the item stems. (3) “This
476 doctor” was replaced with “this clinician.”

477
478 Patient satisfaction with encounter will be assessed with 1 question on a 7 point likert scale.
479 Patients will be asked whether they would recommend the approach used to others for
480 other discussions.

481
482 Clinician satisfaction with encounter will be assessed with 2 questions. A 5 point likert
483 scale questioning satisfaction with discussion about anticoagulation medication choice.
484 The clinician will also be asked whether they would recommend the approach used to other
485 clinicians for other discussions on a 7 point Likert scale.

486

487 4.7.2 SDM processes

488

489 To assess SDM processes the recordings of the clinical encounter will be evaluated
490 (video/audio or audio only recordings).

491

492 Extent of SDM that took place during the encounter will be assessing the degree of
493 involvement of patients by the clinician in SDM using the OPTIONS scale.⁵³ The scale
494 consists of 12 items scored from 0, no effort to 4, exemplary effort. The 12 items are
495 summed and converted to a 100 point scale. A sample of 20% of the recordings will be
496 assessed by two or more reviewers. Agreement will be assessed by Lin's concordance
497 index⁵⁴, where any value over 0.8 will be considered concordant. If concordance does not
498 occur within the first 20%, the two reviewers will assess cases of difference and review an
499 additional 10 cases to test for agreement. Recordings scored by both reviewers will be
500 averaged.

501

502 Impact of SDM on Encounter will be assessed by comparing the length in minutes of the
503 discussion about anticoagulation and of the office visit, when available. Study coordinators
504 when possible will time the encounters in intervention and control visits, prioritizing those
505 encounters in which recording was not allowed. Potential issues preventing assessment of
506 time may be recruitment of another patient.

507

508 Fidelity of SDM Tool by the clinician will be assessed by a review of the recording looking
509 for key items to be addressed. A checklist of key elements will be assessed in both arms to
510 assess not only the fidelity but potential contamination. A sum of the components in the
511 checklist will be calculated for each recording and compared between arms. To score the
512 recording first a sample of 20% of the video's will be assessed by two reviewers.

513 Agreement will be assessed by Lin's concordance index⁵⁴, where any value over 0.8 will be
514 considered concordant. If concordance does not occur within the first 20%, the two
515 reviewers will assess cases of difference and review an additional 10 cases to test for
516 agreement. Recordings scored by both reviewers will be averaged. For encounters where

517 audio and video recording has been declined, a real-time assessment will occur at the
518 consent of the clinician and the patient. The study coordinator will conduct these real-time
519 reviews.

520
521 Inclusion of Cost as an Element of SDM Process will be assessed by first using qualitative
522 inductive content analysis of the transcripts of video-recorded clinical encounters to
523 describe the scope of cost conversations. Deductive video-graphic analyses will be used to
524 code the occurrence of cost conversation themes in order to determine the impact that
525 Anticoagulation Choice has on the appearance of these themes, controlling for individual
526 characteristics and contexts, and the association between cost conversation themes and
527 SDM quality (described above), SDM Processes (described above), and Anticoagulation
528 Use (described below).

529

530

531 4.7.3 Anticoagulation Use

532

533 Rate of anticoagulation: The key indicator of the choice to start an anticoagulant will be
534 its prescription in the EMR prescription module (observed discussions and
535 patient/clinician accounts may not reflect decisions confirmed after the visit with a
536 prescription, for example, after the clinician or the patient checked other information or
537 with other informants). After this primary ‘decided as prescribed’ approach, we will
538 conduct secondary analyses using patient/clinician reported and video-observed
539 decisions. Decisions may be for starting or not an anticoagulant in the start cohort. It is
540 possible that there may be some decisions to stop anticoagulation in the review cohort,
541 but we expect start and review cohorts to contribute information about choice of
542 anticoagulant.

543

544 Choice of anticoagulant: We will review the EMR and 10-month pharmacy profiles
545 (to stand for the 12-month profile given the automatic expiration of
546 pharmacy records at 1 year) to determine the prescribed anticoagulant and
547 whether and when switches to another agent or to no anticoagulant took place.

548 Together, they should capture choice and switches even when these occur as a result of
549 changes in clinician (e.g., from cardiology to primary care). When available, we will
550 note the documented reasons from clinical notes for choosing and switching as well as
551 with which clinician the change was made (e.g primary, cardiology, etc.).

552

553 Anticoagulation persistence: Patients will identify the pharmacy(-ies) they use to fill
554 their prescriptions and authorize us to obtain their prescription drug fill data. We will
555 calculate anticoagulation persistence, using the percent days covered (PDC) based on
556 prescription refill behaviors (total days supply of anticoagulant filled / total days of
557 observation from the first prescription fill date; range 0-100%). We will also pull all
558 pharmacy refills for the 12 months prior to enrollment. This will allow us to calculate
559 persistence for prior use of anticoagulants for the review cohort to compare to persistence
560 post encounter and see if there is an impact.

561

562 Warfarin use: For patients who choose to stay on warfarin, we will also use as secondary
563 measures of adherence: (a) the proportion of INR tests obtained/scheduled; and (b)
564 percentage of time at therapeutic target (typically INR 2-3).

565

566 4.7.4 Safety outcomes

567

568 Strokes and bleeds requiring medical assistance will be monitored and reported to the data
569 safety monitoring board (section 6.1). Because very few of these are expected, we will rely
570 on patient/clinician self-report and medical record review 12 months post enrollment for
571 each participant. Should a patient not have utilization in the 3 months prior to the 12 month
572 date, then the patient will be contacted directly for confirmation.

573

574 **4.8 Follow-up Guidelines**

575

576 All patients will be followed per protocol guidelines and deviations from protocol will be
577 reported to the IRB.

578

579 Withdraw: If a patient refuses to continue to participate and they withdraw consent they
580 will then be considered withdrawn from the study; to uphold the intention-to-treat
581 principle, we will inquire as to whether we can continue to passively collect data from the
582 medical record, and if ok from 10-12 month pharmacy profiles and patient surveys. If not,
583 then no further data will be collected through medical review or self-report. Data collected
584 prior to withdraw will be utilized unless expressly told otherwise by the patient.

585
586 Ineligible: If a patient enrolled onto the study has been found ineligible (not meeting one of
587 the eligibility criteria) they will be documented for reason of ineligible in the study chart.
588 These patients will continue to receive the intervention and all data will be collected for the
589 study. This is a safe course of action as the intervention does not pose any potential harm
590 to the patient beyond loss of privacy. The patients will be identified in the results as being
591 ineligible and reason but will be included in all analyses.

592
593 The procedure for post-randomization exclusions will involve presenting the case to the
594 trial PI blind to the participant's allocation and to their results.

595 596 **4.9 Statistical Analysis**

597 598 4.9.1 Analysis Plan

599
600 The study will be analyzed according to the *intention to treat principle (ITT)*, including all
601 patients enrolled to the study in the arm to which they were assigned, regardless of which
602 they were assigned to (e.g., standard care or Anticoagulation Choice + Standard Care).
603 Reporting will include 'Per Protocol', complete data for each arm plus the ITT analysis
604 where imputation analysis methods will be utilized to address any missing values (see
605 section 4.9.1.1 for details on missing data analysis). Baseline characteristics will be
606 reported in the study results with continuous values being reported as means and standard
607 deviations and categorical values reported as counts and frequencies and compared
608 between study arms using t-tests and chi-squared tests. Any baseline imbalances ($p < 0.05$)
609 will be will be explored as a possible factor to adjust for when the outcome measures are

610 analyzed. We will adhere to the CONSORT guidelines to transparently report study results
611 and ensure that sufficient information is included to allow for assessment of the study's
612 internal and external validity.

613
614 We will use standard techniques appropriate for trials, with each outcome compared
615 between study arms using t-tests for continuous outcomes and chi-square tests for
616 dichotomous outcomes. If there are differences in baseline characteristics found by
617 statistical means or found to have clinical relevance between the two study groups, these
618 will be accounted for using regression models which include an indicator for study arm.

619
620 We will perform descriptive analyses to describe any potential heterogeneity of
621 treatment effect (HTE) and facilitate synthesis of subgroup results in future meta-
622 analyses. We will conduct descriptive HTE analyses by clinic (academic, community
623 and safety net), by cohort (start or review cohort), by stroke risk (CHA2DS2-VASc
624 score of 1 or ≥ 2 for men and 2 or ≥ 3 for women), and by numeracy (Less than
625 adequate vs. not). The outcomes assessed with HTE analyses will be the same as
626 those assessed in the trial (e.g., SDM and communication quality, knowledge, and
627 decisional satisfaction).

628
629 For the main analyses (SDM Quality and SDM Processes), we will not assume that
630 patient effectiveness outcomes are independent of the clinician, but rather test to see if
631 patients seen by the same clinician have correlated outcomes. Ignoring such
632 "clustering" effects would result in over-narrow confidence intervals and potentially
633 false positive study results. Instead, if clustering is seen, determined by calculating
634 the intra-class correlation ($ICC > 0.05$) for each outcome, then the value for the
635 ICC will be reported in findings. We will use cluster (cluster at clinician level)
636 adjusted t-test and chi-square test for comparisons between arms and hierarchical
637 generalized linear models (HGLMs) with random main effects specified at the
638 clinician level when adjusting by more than arm.⁵⁵ If clustering is not present then the
639 results will reduce to a model that assumes independence and reflect findings
640 appropriately.

641
642 Some data analysis will be conducted at the Leiden University Medical Center (the Netherlands),
643 by using remote access connection to the Mayo server and during the appointment time on Mayo
644 Clinic campus. All data will be stored securely on a password-protected computer. Password-
645 protected USB drives may also be used to store electronic files in situations where connection to
646 the Mayo server is limited or unavailable. These USB drives are encrypted and will be used in
647 accordance with Mayo Clinic's Portable Computing and Telecommunication Devices Policy.
648 These USB drives may be shared externally to the Leiden University Medical Center (the
649 Netherlands).

650
651 4.9.1.1 Missing Data

652 We will make every effort to minimize missing data. Trial enrollment and the fidelity of
653 follow-up procedures will be reviewed during bi-weekly conference calls. A study
654 biostatistician will conduct frequency reports to assess for missing data, and the study team,
655 which is experienced in conducting multicenter trials, will trouble shoot any problems
656 encountered. We will report rates of missing data for each outcome by study arm and send
657 missing data reports to sites.
658

659
660 4.9.2 Sample Size Estimation

661
662 *The table shows the detectable* effect for each of the outcomes of interest if we were to
663 have data on that outcome from a total of 333 patients (1% of available population).
664 This provides enough power ($\alpha=0.05$; two-sided difference) to detect meaningful
665 differences across arms for all SDM quality and process outcomes. Our intent,
666 however, is to have enough power to detect important differences when we conduct
667 analyses of groups or cohorts of patients. Most of these analyses will divide the
668 participants into 2 cohorts (e.g., start and review cohorts), except for the subgroup
669 analysis by clinic, which divides the total sample into 3 cohorts: academic, community,
670 and safety net clinic. That is the only analysis with three groups. Given this, we
671 would need 3 times the sample size listed in the table, or **999 participants (3% of**
672 **available sample)** to address all planned subgroup analyses. These are minimum
673 targets for recruitment and we do not plan to limit recruitment in any way to enroll up

674 to this number of patients. It assumes even distribution of participants per subgroup
675 (e.g., start vs. review cohort); since the only grouping with three levels is clinic, each
676 clinic will be expected to recruit similar numbers. Thus, for the main analysis and for
677 other subgroup analyses (n=2 levels),
678

Outcome (n = 333)	Rate (%) or SD	Detectable effect	Power*
Patient level – SDM quality			
Knowledge transfer [^]	18	5.6	84%
Knowledge of risk	55%	15%	81%
Decisional conflict scale [^]	17	5.2	80%
Clinician level			
Satisfaction [^]	54%	15%	80%
Encounter level – SDM process			
Engagement (OPTION12) [^]	12.6	3.9	80%

679 [^] Values from iADAPT SDM tool trial; * $\alpha=0.05$; two-sided

680
681 We expect approximately 90% of patients to start (start cohort) or continue a medication
682 (review cohort). Of those, we can reasonably expect to obtain >85% of the
683 pharmaceutical records for those (records will be requested of all enrolled patients
684 regardless of decision). Thus, using the trial size estimated of **999 participants**, we will
685 have ~765 patient records available for assessment of anticoagulant persistence at 12
686 months (PDC). In our review of the Optum database, 40% of patients were adherent to
687 anticoagulation (>80% PDC, the threshold used by CMS) at 12 months. Assuming an
688 expected rate of 60% PDC for the usual care cohort, we would have 80% power to
689 detect a 9% difference (69% PDC in the SDM tool arm), with a two-sided test and an
690 alpha of 0.05. In subgroup analyses comprising 100 participants per arm and using a
691 one-sided test and alpha of 0.05, we will have 80% power to detect differences of at
692 least 16%.

693
694 4.9.3 Patient Allocation
695

696 Eligible patients will be allocated into either the usual care arm or to the usual care +
697 ANTICOAGULATION CHOICE SDM tool (intervention) arm using a random sequence
698 the trial statistician will generate *a priori*. The allocation will be stratified by clinic
699 (academic, community or safety net), by cohort (start or review), and stroke risk
700 (CHA₂DS₂-VASc score of 1 or ≥ 2 for men and 2 or ≥ 3 for women) using blocks of
701 random size.

702

703 **5.0 Conflict of Interest**

704

705 The tool under evaluation is not part of any existing effort to commercialize or profit from
706 its use; the researchers involved in this study have not received -- and will not receive with
707 their application in this study -- any royalties or other monetary benefits, directly or
708 indirectly, from the use of the decision aids or from the makers of the interventions being
709 discussed in this tool.

710

711 **6.0 Human Subjects**

712

713 **6.1 Data safety monitoring board**

714

715 A Data Safety and Monitoring Plan (DSMP) and charter has been formed to
716 monitor participant safety, data completeness and adherence to study protocol. In
717 addition, the principal investigator, each of the site investigators and champions,
718 study statisticians, and project coordinator will meet monthly to assess
719 recruitment (overall and by site), baseline comparability of treatment groups,
720 protocol adherence, completeness of data collection, safety, and fidelity of follow-
721 up procedures. They will meet monthly or as needed to review safety. Any
722 potential adverse events will be entered into the study database and the
723 Institutional Review Board will be notified. A Data Safety Monitoring Board
724 (DSMB) has been formed and will meet bi-annually or as needed
725 starting just prior to study enrollment.

726

727 **6.2 Population**

728
729 This study will be available to all eligible patients, regardless of race, gender, or ethnic
730 origin. There is no information currently available regarding differential outcomes of the
731 decision aid in subsets defined by race, gender, or ethnicity, and there is no reason to
732 expect such differences to exist.

733

734 **6.3 Potential Risks**

735
736 Potential risks to patient subjects should be minimal. Given that the intervention has been
737 extensively pilot tested and no adverse outcomes occurred, we do not expect early
738 termination due to harm. The intervention is an educational tool for use during the clinic
739 visit to help patients make decisions about anticoagulation medications. The tool does not
740 make recommendations or result in prescriptions without the participation of the clinician,
741 and the tool is not to be used outside a clinical visit in which a clinician can place the
742 information in context.

743

744 **6.4 Protection and Confidentiality**

745

746 6.4.1 Subject privacy

747

748 In this study, the privacy of all study participants will be protected by avoiding the use of
749 names on all research data (including field notes, transcribed conference call, meeting
750 tapes, audio-and video-recordings of the interviews, transcripts). All study participants will
751 be identified by a unique study code number only. The link between the code number and
752 study participant's identity will be stored within the remote data capture system. Medical
753 records will be abstracted electronically using computers that are not linked to any Mayo
754 mainframe computer. Names of those who decline participation in the study will be
755 maintained in a do-not-contact list, so they will not be contacted multiple times (as patients
756 are likely to have multiple appointments at participating clinics during the study). All
757 research material outside of what is stored within the remote data capture system will be
758 maintained on a secure server at the KER Unit at Mayo Clinic and locked in file cabinets.

759

760 6.4.2 Data management

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774 6.4.3 Video and audio-recordings

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787 6.4.4 Registry

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All sites will be required to use the current version of all documents and forms and adhere to the study schedule. Forms and documents will be returned to study coordinators via upload to the remote data entry system (REDCap⁴⁴), Fedex or data transfer between sites. Data entry specialists will enter survey and medical record data into the REDCap system which is hosted by Mayo Clinic, which is a HIPAA compliant secure data entry system that allows for validated data entry, edit checks and logs of all data changes. The data can be accessed by the statistical team at any time and downloaded into a statistical software package. The statistical team will review the data on a bi-weekly basis to ensure data accuracy and completeness. All data, documents, and analysis findings will be housed within the Mayo Clinic system that is password protected and backed up on a nightly basis. The data will be stored within the secure system following completion of the study.

Health visits will be recorded (video/audio or audio only) with permission of all participants. These recordings are conducted using a portable digital video camera that is placed aimed at the clinician's desk, away from the physical examination table. The clinician and the patient will be instructed on how to occlude the lens, direct the camera to a wall, or turn off the camera at any time they feel this is appropriate. Digital recordings are immediately transferred and/or uploaded to the research team's secure server and deleted from portable devices after overnight back-up of Mayo's servers. The video and audio files are identified using a code number that does not include the name of the clinician, support staff, or patient or reference to their medical record number or date of birth. All recordings will be transcribed verbatim by an IRB approved transcription service.

Collected study data (including audio and video recordings) will be kept in a registry to conduct further analyses, future un-identified and IRB approved research, trainings, quality

791 improvement and educational purposes, which includes sending data (and recordings) to
792 research collaborators. The research collaborators will have research appointments with
793 Mayo Clinic and will only assist in analyzing data; they will not have contact with study
794 participants.

795

796 6.4.5 IRB Umbrella

797

798 When the study is being kept open for secondary analysis and registry purposes only, this
799 IRB application may merge to an umbrella IRB application.

800

801 7.0 References

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803

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