

High levels of Time in Therapeutic Range (TTR) demonstrated by Community Pharmacy Anticoagulation Service (CPAMS).

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Background

CPAMS is an initiative in New Zealand whereby community pharmacists provide a reliable, easily accessible warfarin management service using point of care testing.

Previous results demonstrated the value of warfarin service and the high level of patient engagement measured by the TTR achieved, adherence to test date and patient and general practitioner satisfaction surveys.

We report the impact of a wider service rollout.

Method

155 pharmacies were recruited as part of the national roll out of the service. Pharmacists use a point of care device to measure International Normalised Ratio [INR] value) to maintain the individual's INR within range (1.4 and 4.0). Between these limits pharmacists adjust both dose and testing frequency outside of this range, the prescriber must be consulted.

National reporting was used to collate statistics for two six-month periods.

Results

Over 6000 patients (2/3 AF) were included as part of national reporting with TTR for two six-month periods; July – December 2015 (TTR 73.0%) and January – June 2016 TTR 74.1%. Test frequency for July – December 1.41 tests per month vs 1.39 for January – June.

Patient ranged from teenagers to elderly patients with the peak for men at 73 and women at 80. Most patients identified as European New Zealanders 74%, Maori 11.3%, Pacific Island 3.6%, Asian 1.3% other 8.9%

Discussion

TTR has remained consistently high and above international recommendations of >65%. This is despite the aging, high-risk nature of CPAMS population with frequent hospitalisations.

Pharmacists' knowledge of the patient, their medicines and the patient's concerns and behaviours play an important role in the ongoing integrated care of these high-risk patients.