

## EVALUATION OF WARFARIN ORAL USED BY INTERNATIONAL NORMALIZED RATIO VALUE AND DETERMINATION FREQUENCY TO CARDIOVASCULAR PATIENT AT HAJI ADAM MALIK GENERAL HOSPITAL, MEDAN, INDONESIA

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### ABSTRACT

**Objective:** The objective of this research was to evaluate of warfarin oral used by value and determination frequency of international normalized ratio (INR).

**Methods:** The data of cardiovascular patients were collected from medical records in Haji Adam Malik General Hospital, Medan, North Sumatera, Indonesia, in 2016. This study evaluated the data by retrospective study design. The sample study was selected by Slovin method from the population of medical record of cardiovascular patients who received warfarin therapy. The sample of population was divided based on how many times the INR was measured. The groups are no measurement, once a year, unregularly schedule, thrice a year, and every month. The data were analyzed by analysis of variant to evaluated association of INR values and groups of patients.

**Result:** The total sample in this study was 90 patients based on Slovin formula. The percentage of patient who never gets INR checked was 18.89%, once a year was 32.2%, unregularly was 34.44%, thrice a year was 8.89%, and every month was 5.56%. The value of INR in groups was  $0.00 \pm 0.00$  in never checked group, once in year was  $1.18 \pm 0.44$ , unregularly was  $1.79 \pm 1.00$ , once time in 3 months was  $2.04 \pm 0.73$ , and every month was  $2.42 \pm 0.91$ . The groups of patients with never evaluation of INR value were significantly different with the other groups ( $p \leq 0.05$ ).

**Conclusion:** The results obtained in this study indicated the majority patients group in case of warfarin oral used and evaluation of bleeding status were once checked in year and unregularly determination of INR value. The best condition, in this case, was the determination of INR value in every month caused the bleeding or coagulation status of patient can be evaluated.

**Keywords:** Warfarin, International normalized ratio, Cardiovascular, Hospital.

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### INTRODUCTION

The bleeding is the common problem in cardiovascular disease. The two types of bleeding in cardiovascular are ischemic and hemorrhage. The bleeding event was caused by a disorder or manipulating (mechanic or pharmacologic) in the treatment of the disease [1]. The pharmacologic manipulation associated with clinically significant side effects from medicines and supplements [2,3].

The bleeding is related to the anticoagulant grouped by minor and major bleeding. The minor bleeding such as in the nose, pharynx, urinary tract, soft tissue, and joint space. The major bleeding such as in cerebrovascular (intracranial) and gastrointestinal (40–60%) systems that may occur in the retroperitoneal region and intraocular. Intracranial hemorrhage is a fatal hemorrhage associated with warfarin therapy. Although the incidence is estimated to range from 0.3% to 2%, 60% of sufferers experience death from the incidence value [4].

Heparin is a parenteral anticoagulant that acts as indirect thrombin inhibitor and is extensively used for treatment and prophylaxis of several thromboembolic conditions in clinical practice. Heparin is a heterogeneous mixture of sulfated mucopolysaccharides whose biologic activity is dependent on the endogenous anticoagulant antithrombin. Commonly use oral anticoagulant is warfarin [5].

The 50% of the bleeding that occurs is major bleeding. The bleeding associated with warfarin causes morbidity due to transfusion and

hospitalization. An average of 1 in 10 major hemorrhages causes death and 1 in 12 patients will experience bleeding after reuse of warfarin [6]. During the development of research on major bleeding related to warfarin, the mortality rate reached 9.5–13.4% [7,8]. An examination of the international normalized ratio (INR) in patients receiving warfarin therapy is needed to monitor the chances of bleeding [9,10].

Based on high mortality rate due to bleeding because of warfarin usage, evaluation of warfarin based on INR value and relation with bleeding number of patient needs to be evaluated. In this study, patients of cardiovascular disease who received warfarin were grouped by frequency of the determination of INR values.

### METHODS

#### Ethical clearance

The study was approved by Health Research Ethical Committee, Medical Faculty of University of Sumatera Utara/Haji Adam Malik General Hospital with an ethical clearance number of 368/TGL/KEPK FK USU-RSUP HAM/2017.

#### Study design

The study design in this research was case-control study. The data were collected by retrospective method for evaluation of clinical condition and identify study participants based on their case status in medical record. This study was compared and analyzing statistical associations between exposure and outcomes [11].

**Time and location**

This study was conducted at Haji Adam Malik Hospital from May to September 2017, and the data used in study were taken from 2016s data.

**Population and sample**

The population was all of the cardiovascular patients' medical record in Haji Adam Malik Hospital, Medan, Indonesia. The sample was collected by simple random sampling method from the medical record in 2016 year period. The simple random sampling method used the Slovin formula for count the number of sample from all of the population. The Slovin formula is:

$$n = \frac{N}{1 + Ne^2}$$

n: The number of sample, N: The number of population, e: The number of deviation or error (10%).

The collected sample was grouped by the type of determination frequency of INR value; there are no measurements, once in year period, unregularly, thrice a year, and every month.

**Statistical analysis**

Statistical analysis was conducted using analysis of variant method to identify significantly different between all groups and conclude the relationship of determination frequency of INR value and warfarin used. In this study, the independent variable was determination frequency and dependent variable was INR value for the evaluation of coagulant or bleeding status in patients.

**RESULT****Characteristic of patients demography**

The number of patients by sex can be viewed in Table 1.

Based on the data obtained, it is known that the number of male patients is greater than female patients. Warfarin usually prescribed because both male and female patients are equally at risk for blood coagulation.

The number of patients by age can be viewed in Table 2.

Based on the data, patients with the most coagulation are patients over the age of 60 years, followed by patients between 50 and 60 years. The older the human age the ability of the organs of the body to work decreases. In this case, blood clotting factors with age also decrease in function so it is more susceptible to coagulation. Patients in this age range should be more supervised during warfarin prescribing because age is a risk factor for heart disease.

The INR value by the group of determination frequency can be viewed in Table 3.

Based on the data, it can be concluded that the INR checks performed every 1 month are the most appropriate frequency. From statistical data, checks every 3 months and 1 month can be evaluated, but for examination, every 3 months does not differ significantly with irregular examination, so the examination every 1 month is the best result. The 0.00 value in the never measured group is not the true value but indicates that the value is unknowable.

**DISCUSSION**

Based on medical record, the number of patients who do not regularly performs the INR (laboratory), one of which is due to patient disobedience to the therapy procedure. The patient's educational, economic, social, and psychological affects him immensely. Non-compliance increases mortality, morbidity, and hospitalization. Compliance is the patient's own responsibility to follow a medical therapy program. Compliance is a multidimensional phenomenon that interacts among many factors [12,13].

**Table 1: The number of patients by sex**

Sex	n (%)
Male	47 (52.22)
Female	43 (47.78)

**Table 2: The number of patients by age**

Ages (years)	n (%)
20-30	7 (7.78)
31-40	20 (22.22)
41-50	15 (16.67)
51-60	23 (25.56)
>60	25 (27.78)

**Table 3: The INR value by group of determination frequency**

No	Groups	INR values
1	Never	0.00±0.00
2	Once in 1-year period	1.18±0.44*
3	Unregularly	1.79±1.00*
4	Once time in 3 months	2.04±0.73*
5	Every month	2.42±0.91*

INR: International normalized ratio. \*The significantly different to groups that have never been measured (group 1). p<0.05

INR monitoring in patients with low thrombotic risk is done daily until INR 2-3 is reached if it is stable enough to examine 4-6 weeks. While for patients with high thrombotic risk, an initial examination is done every 3 days until the INR value reaches 2, then every week to INR 2-3, if the INR has stabilized then it should be checked once every 4-6 weeks [14-16].

Evidence suggests that stroke prevention by warfarin is effective when the time in therapeutic range (TTR) is either >70%. TTR is the proportion of time when INR 2-3 is achieved compared to overall duration of warfarin consumption. Therefore, continuous dose regulatory efforts should be made to obtain target values of INR 2-3. The difficulty of using warfarin in Indonesia is the unavailability of the INR inspection facility in peripheral areas. In this regard, it should also be noted that genetic factors in Indonesian ethnicity are related to the sensitivity of individuals to warfarin [17].

**CONCLUSION**

The examination of INR values is an important factor in the evaluation of coagulation and bleeding events in the treatment of cardiovascular disease using anticoagulant therapy such as warfarin with periodic checks; health workers can monitor the use of drug doses to achieve a better quality of life for patients.

**CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS**

Declared none.

**AUTHORS CONTRIBUTION**

The first author has carried out the research. Second and third authors have provided study conception, the design of work and critical revision.

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