

Warfarin Care Support

Phone 1300 769 440



Warfarin Care

Clinipath Pathology's Warfarin Care program is a service provided to patients of Clinipath Pathology's regular referring doctors. For patient safety, we will not accept patients where we do not have regular communication with the patient's General Practitioner. This precludes patients of GPs who do not usually refer to Clinipath Pathology, and patients from public hospitals. Clinipath Pathology reserves the right to refuse enrolment of any patient for patient safety reasons.

Enrolment steps

Step 1 Before enrolment, please:

- assess your patient's eligibility for our Warfarin Care program according to our Eligibility criteria (next column)
- provide your patient with adequate dosing instructions until Warfarin Care Support have notified you and your patient that the enrolment process is complete. Allow at least 3 working days.

Step 2 Doctor, nurse, or practice manager must fax the completed enrolment application to Warfarin Care Support to enrol your patient. Please retain this original enrolment application for future reference.

Your patient's eligibility will be assessed and we will notify you if our program is not suitable for your patient.

If your patient is in hospital, you must confirm their enrolment is accepted before they are discharged.

The referring doctor must manage the patient's heparin therapy, including low molecular weight heparin such as

Clexane, Heparin therapy (UF or LMWH) should continue until INR is in the therapeutic range for at least 48 hours.

We cannot commence enrolments on Fridays, week-ends, or public holidays. Enrolment days will be limited prior to Easter, Christmas, and New Year to allow the safe transfer of your patient onto our program.

Enrolment in our Warfarin Care program is contingent upon all parties—doctor, patient, and laboratory—understanding and accepting their roles and responsibilities.

Eligibility criteria

To be eligible for enrolment in our program, your patient must:

- be taking Warfarin (not Dindevan medication)
- have a minimum enrolment period of one month
- have a General Practitioner (includes patients discharged from public hospital) who refers their patients to Clinipath Pathology
- have a valid contact phone number and mailing address
- be able to comprehend and record verbal dose instructions
- be able to comply with dose instructions (or have a carer who can comply)
- be able to attend for testing on scheduled dates, subject to exceptional circumstances
- not have been discharged from a Warfarin Care program due to non-compliance
- not require a narrow target range (less than one unit)
- not require daily INR levels
- not require acute care.

Ongoing patient eligibility for Warfarin Care

Patients who were eligible on enrolment will become ineligible for our Warfarin Care program if they:

- require a narrow target range
- require daily INR levels
- are non-compliant
- become unable to follow verbal or written dose instructions
- are abusive to Pathology staff
- develop complex clinical conditions or become unstable where one-on-one management by their own referring doctor is necessary
- experience ongoing difficulties attending on scheduled test dates—for example, patients who reside in remote areas or whose employment requires frequent travel.

You will be advised of our concerns regarding your patient's suitability for our program. If these concerns are not resolved, then we will return the responsibility for managing your patient's warfarin therapy to you.

Enrolment post Pradaxa

Before we can enrol or re-activate a patient who has ceased taking Pradaxa, the following conditions must be met:

- Pradaxa must have been ceased for 2 weeks prior
- The patient must have recommenced warfarin
- The patient must have had at least 2 INRs in therapeutic range.

Once all conditions are met we can consider reactivation, but until then patient care remains in your hands.