# Anticoagulation Stewardship (ACS) Program



## Mission statement of the Anticoagulation Stewardship (ACS) program?

'The Anticoagulation Stewardship program aims to promote and optimise the safe use of anticoagulants for patients of Monash Health. The primary focus of the program is to improve patient outcomes by reducing anticoagulant-related adverse events and preventing hospital-complications through optimising the use of anticoagulants.'



## Who is part of the ACS team?

### Collaborative multidisciplinary approach between:

- Pharmacy
  - 1.0 Grade 3
  - 1.0 Grade 2
- Haematology
  - 0.8 Consultant Haematologist
    - 0.3 Lead
    - 0.1 x 5 others

## Servicing 6 hospitals (+HITH)

• ~1600 beds



## Which patients do the ACS team review?

- Any adult patient being prescribed anticoagulation
- Particularly, patients in complex scenarios including:
  - Extremes of body weight (<40 kg or >130 kg)
  - Impaired renal function (CrCl<30 mL/min)</li>
  - Intravenous anticoagulation (eg. heparin infusion, bivalirudin infusion)
  - Low platelets ( $\leq 50 \times 10^9/L$ )
  - Supra- or sub-therapeutic INRs with warfarin
  - Warfarin initiation/re-initiation
- Referrals regarding choice, dose, adjustment, or monitoring of anticoagulants; periprocedural management of anticoagulants
- Routine review of patients flagged to be at increased risk of harm due to anticoagulant therapy
- All patients referred to HITH for anticoagulation (enoxaparin/warfarin)



## **Intervention Examples**

- 93F prescribed and administered ≥2 anticoagulants (apixaban 10 mg BD for a deep vein thrombosis (DVT) and enoxaparin 40 mg subcut daily) concurrently
  - Enoxaparin ceased
- 63F recommenced on warfarin for mechanical heart valve at 10.5 mg, 9 mg, 9 mg post-fistuloplasty, usual maintenance dose was 3 mg
  - Dose decreased to 3 mg
- 68M experiencing chemotherapy-related thrombocytopenia (25 x 10<sup>9</sup>L), prescribed and administered enoxaparin 40 mg subcut daily and aspirin 100mg daily
  - Enoxaparin and aspirin suspended, platelets monitored daily



## **Intervention Examples**

#### Anticoagulation Stewardship (ACS) Virtual Review

ACS Pharmacist: Simone Taylor ACS Haematologist: Emma Leitinger

Thank you for contacting the ACS team RE: warfarin dosing plan

Patient chart reviewed by ACS team:

- 37M with confirmed DVT and presumed large volume PE with RH dysfunction/pulmonary hypertension
- Patient weight 250kg, eGFR>90 mL/min
- On enoxaparin 200mg subcut bd. Anti-Xa level = 0.59 at 4hrs post dose within target 0.5-1.0
- Commenced on warfarin (Coumadin) on 3/3/23, received 1 dose of 9 mg, then dose increased to 10.5mg, pt has received 2 doses of 10.5 mg and INR yesterday = 1.6
- Target INR range = 2-3

#### Relevant medication(s):

- Enoxaparin 200mg subcut twice daily
- Warfarin (Coumadin) 10.5 mg oral daily

#### ACS recommendation(s):

- Suggest increasing warfarin dose to 11 mg daily and continuing this dose for 2 days before considering any further dose increases (unless clinically appropriate to decrease dose ie. INR rising rapidly)
- Suggest continuing bridging enoxaparin 200 mg subcut BD with warfarin until two consecutive INRs above 2 are achieved, then cease enoxaparin

Above information discussed with HMO. If you require further information, please contact the ACS pharmacist on 0429 357 512.

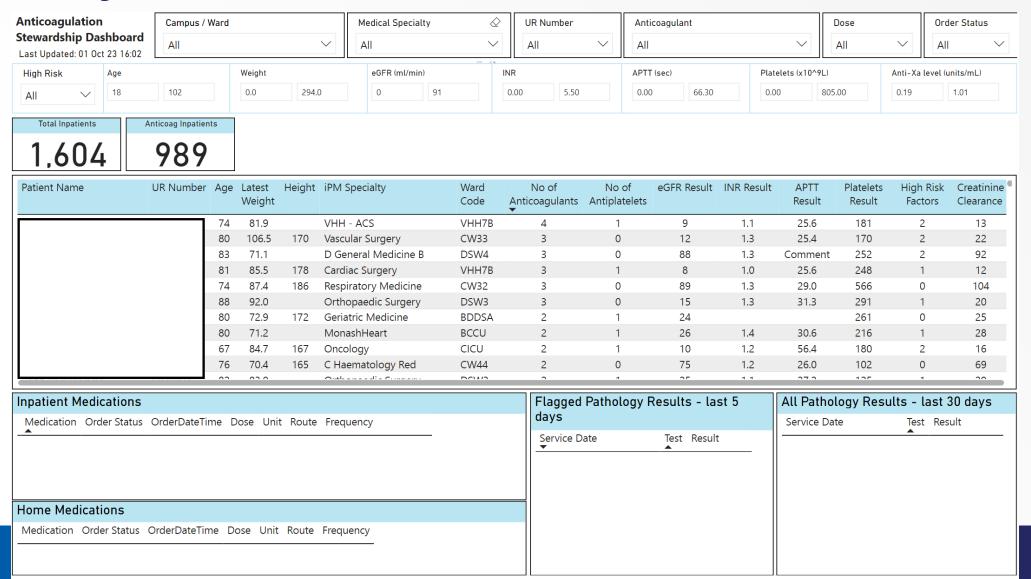


## What activities do the ACS team perform?

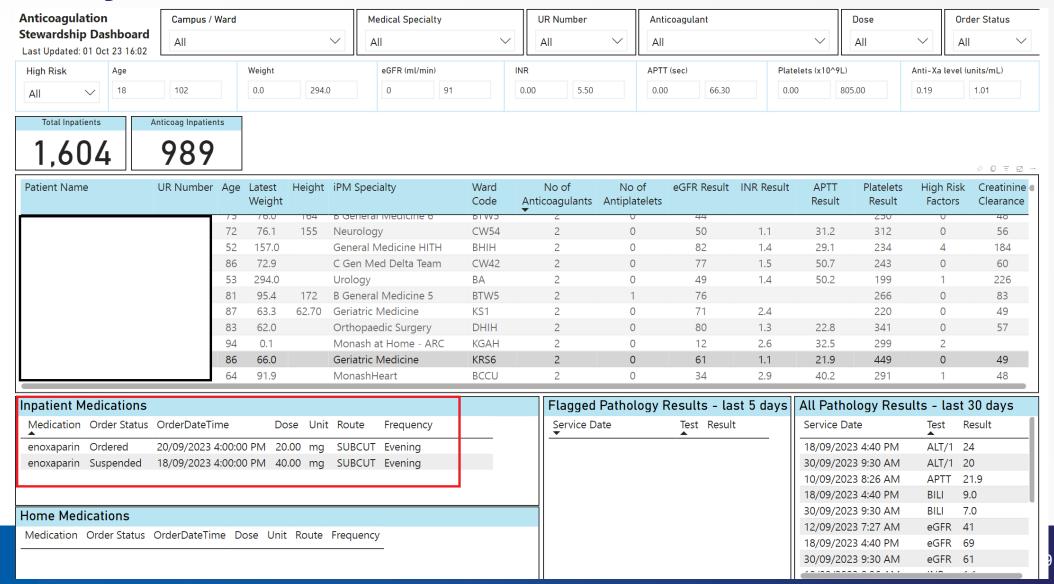
- Daily rounds targeting <u>high-risk</u> anticoagulant scenarios
- Provide anticoagulant related advice
- Education
  - Medical, nursing, pharmacy
- Review anticoagulant-related documents
- Monitor anticoagulant usage, trends and incidents
- Continuous quality improvement activities
- Research



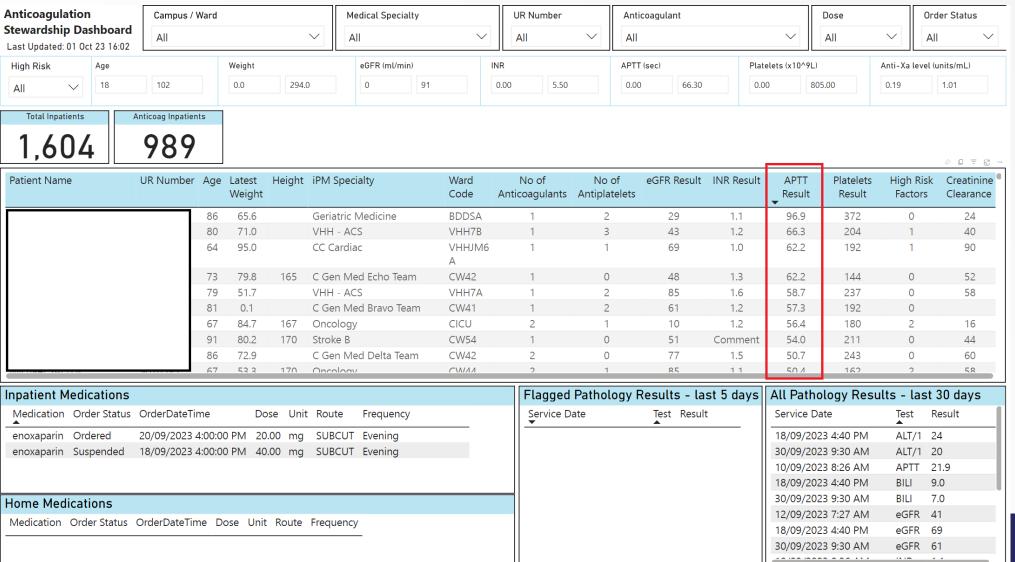
## Daily rounds 'dashboard'



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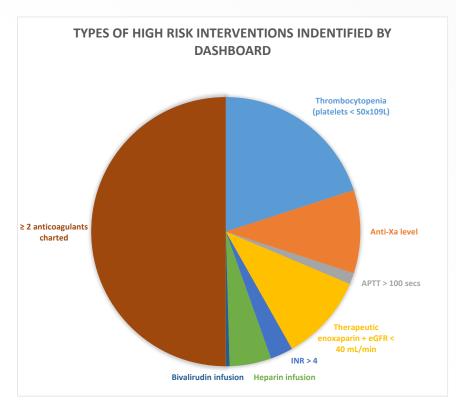


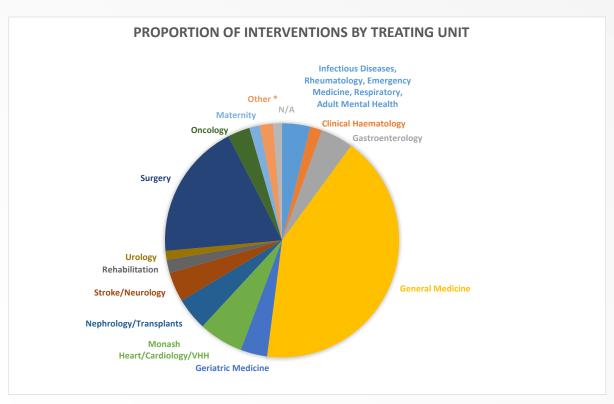
## Daily rounds 'dashboard'



## **ACS team stats - Dashboard**

No. of interventions made via dashboard total = 490 (~2/day)





20/11/2023

## **ACS** team stats - Dashboard

- No. of high-risk interventions identified via the dashboard = 220
  - 110 patients charted ≥ 2 anticoagulant concurrently on the MAR
  - 44 thrombocytopenic patients on an anticoagulant
  - 23 therapeutic enoxaparin + eGFR <40mL/min</li>
  - 22 anti-Xa level
  - Smaller numbers: INR >4/APTT >100; heparin/bivalirudin infusions

- Approximately 60-80 patients/day reviewed via dashboard
  - Of those approximately 10 requiring going into EMR

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20/11/2023 12

## **ACS** team stats – Referrals

- 'Non Dashboard' activity (via phone, Teams, email) = 1295 (~5/day)
  - Anticoagulant:
    - Choice
    - Bridging
    - Dosing
    - Monitoring
  - Consults:
    - New diagnosis simple VTE

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## What activities are being planned for the future?

- Daily rounds targeting patients not prescribed VTE prophylaxis
- Expand in-person rounds in high-risk areas
  - Orthopaedics, general medicine, other ICUs
- Oversight of patients anticoagulated after valve surgery
- Early follow-up of high-risk patients discharged on a new anticoagulant



## Contacting the ACS program

• Email: Anticoagulation.Stewardship@monashhealth.org

