
From: GMEtemp

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Subject: FW: PATIENT SAFETY AND QUALITY BULLETIN -- Anticoagulation Discharge Education

Patient Safety and Quality Bulletin

Complying with the Standards

August 11, 2009

Issue No. 39

From the UCSF Chief Medical and Chief Nursing Officers

New Requirements for ADULT Anticoagulation Discharge Education

Anticoagulation is a high-risk therapy with potential for adverse drug events due to the complexity of dosing and need for close monitoring. Patient education plays a critical role in ensuring optimal outcomes by reinforcing important topics such as compliance, dietary guidelines and potential for adverse drug reactions and interactions.

New Requirement: Standardized documentation for anticoagulation discharge education for adults discharged on therapeutically dosed warfarin or low molecular weight heparin is a new requirement. Anticoagulation teaching on all adult services must be documented on the following standardized teaching record forms: Warfarin (#602-558, SEE SAMPLE on page 2 of attachment) and Low Molecular Weight Heparin (#602-557Z, SEE SAMPLE on page 3 of attachment). Teaching records can be found on all adult inpatient units. Contact the unit patient care manager if you cannot locate them.

The anticoagulation discharge education process involves two steps -- education and verification.

EDUCATION: Registered nurses and pharmacists primarily provide patient discharge education.

- Although anticoagulation teaching is frequently done by registered nurses and pharmacists, in the event that a physician provides discharge teaching, he or she must also document anticoagulation discharge teaching using the standardized forms.
- Education begins as soon as the patient is assessed to be "ready to learn."
- Complete documentation includes:
 - Teaching record is thoroughly filled out by the education instructor(s).
 - Education instructor(s)' and patient's signatures are present when all elements have been completed and the instructor has assessed adequate patient understanding of the information.
 - Education materials are provided to patient (copy of teaching record, appropriate Your Health Matters material *).

VERIFICATION: The nurse discharging the patient:

- Verifies that the teaching record is complete with signatures present and copies in the medical record
- **UCare Units Only:** Documents that teaching record is complete in UCare by marking the Anticoagulation Discharge Teaching checkbox within the Nursing Discharge. **NOTE:** If documentation does not exist, the discharge nurse should either complete the discharge education and documentation or contact the patient's pharmacist to provide education and complete appropriate documentation.

* Patient Education Material: Your Health Matters

As appropriate, patients should be provided with the following Anticoagulation Your Health Matters (YHM) Educational Material. Booklets available on adult units or samples can be viewed at <http://patiented.ucsfmedicalcenter.org/index.asp> (Categories: Medications, Dietary, Safety):

- YHM: A Patient's Guide to Using Warfarin (available in English, Chinese, Russian, Spanish)
- YHM: Vitamin K and Anticoagulants (Warfarin only)
- YHM: How to Prevent Fall Injury in the Hospital: Blood Thinners (optional)

If you have questions, please contact Elise Hazlewood, RN, MS, CNS, cardiovascular clinical nurse specialist, elise.hazlewood@ucsfmedctr.org or the adult service unit based clinical pharmacist.