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The Indian consensus guidance on stroke prevention in atrial fibrillation: An emphasis on practical use of nonvitamin K oral anticoagulants.

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Abstract

The last ten years have seen rapid strides in the evolution of nonvitamin K oral anticoagulants (NOACs) for stroke prevention in patients with atrial fibrillation (AF). For the preparation of this consensus, a comprehensive literature search was performed and data on available trials, subpopulation analyses, and case reports were analyzed. This Indian consensus document intends to provide guidance on selecting the right NOAC for the right patients by formulating expert opinions based on the available trials and Asian/Indian subpopulation analyses of these trials. A section has been dedicated to the current evidence of NOACs in the Asian population. Practical suggestions have been formulated in the following clinical situations: (i) Dose recommendations of the NOACs in different clinical scenarios; (ii) NOACs in patients with rheumatic heart disease (RHD); (iii) Monitoring anticoagulant effect of the NOACs; (iv) Overdose of NOACs; (v) Antidotes to NOACs; (vi) Treatment of hypertrophic cardiomyopathy (HCM) with AF using NOACs; (vii) NOACs dose in elderly; (viii) Switching between NOACs and vitamin K antagonists (VKA); (ix) Cardioversion or ablation in NOAC-treated patients; (x) Planned/emergency surgical interventions in patients currently on NOACs; (xi) Management of bleeding complications of NOACs; (xii) Management of acute coronary syndrome (ACS) in AF with NOACs; (xiii) Management of acute ischemic stroke while on NOACs.

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