

Bridging Tinzaparin – (for patients on NOACs)

This leaflet is for patients who are on blood-thinning medicines such as Rivaroxaban, Dabigatran or Apixaban, who are undergoing surgery. These medicines collectively are known as Novel Oral Anticoagulants (NOACs).

Before surgery

Patients who take a NOAC are usually asked to stop taking it a few days before their operation. The pre-operative assessment nurse will advise you if you need to do this and for how long.

Some patients will need to give themselves Tinzaparin injections for a few days before surgery and for up to 5 days following surgery. If you need this it will be prescribed in the pre-operative assessment clinic and the nurse will explain the injection technique to you. You will be provided with an 'injection pack' in the pre-operative assessment clinic which contains information on how to administer the injections as well as a sharps box for safe disposal of used syringes. On the days before your operation you should inject the Tinzaparin in the morning.

On the day of surgery

Do not inject your Tinzaparin on the day of surgery, but please bring your injections with you to ADSU.

After surgery

Following surgery the nurses will advise you when to restart your NOAC tablets (1- 4 days). You will need to continue to administer Tinzaparin injections (usually at 8pm) until you have restarted the NOAC. The dose of Tinzaparin will be the same as the dose given before surgery.

Any questions?

If there is anything you don't understand, please phone the pre-operative assessment clinic on 0118 322 6546 and speak to one of our nurses.

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