
Title	Anticoagulation self-testing using Coaguchek ®
Date	1 October 2017
Approved by	Medicines Optimisation Committee

The routine prescribing of coagulometer such as Coaguchek ® is not endorsed by Waltham Forest CCG.

The use of coagulometers has not been agreed locally for patients who self-test or self-manage their oral anticoagulant therapy. GPs should not routinely prescribe testing strips for coagulometers such as the Coaguchek® testing strips following a request from a patients or a local anticoagulation clinics.

The following support should be in place for all patients who are considering self-testing:

- Patients and carers should be trained in the effective use of the CoaguChek XS system or the
- Clinicians involved in the patients care should regularly review their ability to self-monitor.
- Equipment for self-monitoring should be regularly checked using reliable quality-control procedures, and by testing patients' equipment against a healthcare professional's coagulometer which is checked in line with an external quality assurance scheme.
- Ensure accurate patient records are kept and shared appropriately.

Waltham Forest CCG do not have assurance that the criteria listed above are in place locally. Without these governance processes in place, the testing devices may not be accurate and can result in inappropriate dosing of warfarin. The CCG will be reviewing the current provision of the service with the haematology clinics to discuss the governance, safety and commissioning arrangements to enable self-testing in the borough.

For requests from anticoagulation clinics outside of the borough, practices are encouraged to consider whether appropriate governance processes are in place to ensure that the patients are safely managed.