Strategies for a better outcome of the TTR and an improved patient compliance

The Swiss way presented by Andri Färber (www.INRswiss.ch) and Walter Wuillemin, MD.

Key message from the conference:
In Switzerland the teaching centers, the patient organization INRswiss and the patients themselves all contribute to reaching a TTR of over 70%.

In Switzerland 1% of the population (around 80'000) is anticoagulated, whereof 5% carry out self-management. The rest of the patients are monitored by GPs, who measure the patients’ INR during their visits by using the CoaguCheck® device.

The foundation Coagulation Care (www.coagulationcare.ch) provides training in German, French and Italien. Up to 2012 a total of around 2'000 patients were trained to monitor their INR with the CoaguCheck® device (200 per year). CoagulationCare organises 80% of all trainings in Switzerland. The rest is covered by the GAIS education center and single-point GPs.

INRswiss (patient organization) organises a special INRswiss Patient Day every year. The topics of this interesting day include “How to handle emergencies?” “Updates on anticoagulation”, “important information for the anticoagulated patients” and so on.

All these efforts and activities of the various parties contribute in reaching the goal of a TTR of over 70%.

The Dutch way presented by Cees N de Graaff (www.stizan.nl) and Ron van’t Land, MD.

Key message from the conference:
The success factors of the Dutch approach are the level of organization, patients empowerment and compliance, and the clearer concept of case management. STIZAN the Dutch patients organization and anticoagulation centers counts about 430’000 patients (2.6% of 16.7mio population) from which about 32’000 (7.5%) do Self-management. Actually patients suited for self-management should be >20%.

The group centralizes knowledge, training, organization, management and quality with quality audit accreditation throughout the country. A lot of importance in placed on communication: focus on understanding and “empowerment” by the patients. Success factors are level of organization, patient’s surveillance and compliance, accessibility of know-how, educational program for certified and specialized Physicians, and clearer concept of case management.
Résumé of the statements:
Every country has shown what it does. Beside all measures in place in each country, all agreed that patient education and also physician education plays a critical role in reaching the goal together (taking into consideration that not every patient is able or can do self-management) and that it is very important to define simple easy to comprehend common guidelines.

Reporter: M. Simon

From left: Alan K. Jacobson, Torben Bjerregaard Larsen and Anders Sjålander

Chairman for the last session: „First steps for a consensus paper“ Alan K. Jacobson, MD, Loma Linda, Ca., USA

Ron van’t Land, MD, (in the middle) in discussion. On the right side: Hugo ten Cate, MD, behind Hannelore Rott, MD.

Participants of the ISMAAP-conference in Vienna.


ISMAAP wishes a Happy New Year!
Hope to see you in 2013.