

Continuation Of Therapy - Day 5 Forward

- **Target INR** for patient **who have completed Day 1-4 of the initiation protocol**
 - **2.5-3.5** for patients with **mechanical /prosthetic valves or recurrent thrombotic events**
 - **2-3** for **all other patients**
- **Adjust warfarin dose from day 5 forward** based on INR response
 - **Medically stable patients without** mechanical mitral valves or recurrent thrombotic events - **target 2 to 3** (see Table 4):

Table 4. Adjusting Warfarin Dose for Days 5 forward for **Medically Stable Patients Without** Mechanical Mitral Valves or Recurrent Thrombotic Events

INR	Warfarin Adjustment
1.1-1.4	increase dose by 20%
1.5-1.9	increase dose by 10%
2-3	no change
3.1-3.5	decrease dose by 10%
>3.5	hold until INR <3.5; restart at 20% less than the previous dose

- **Mechanical /prosthetic mitral valves or recurrent thrombotic events - target 2.5 to 3.5** (see Table 5):

Table 5. Adjusting Warfarin Dose for Days 5 forward for **Mechanical /prosthetic Mitral Valves or Recurrent Thrombotic Events**

INR	Warfarin Adjustment
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1.1-1.4	increase dose by 20%
1.5-2.4	increase dose by 10%
2.5-3.5	no change
>3.5	hold until INR <3.5; restart at 20% less than the previous dose

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These guidelines do not establish a standard of care to be followed in every case. It is recognized that each case is different and those individuals involved in providing health care are expected to use their judgment in determining what is in the best interests of the patient based on the circumstances existing at the time. It is impossible to anticipate all possible situations that may exist and to prepare guidelines for each. Accordingly these guidelines should guide care with the understanding that departures from them may be required at times.

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