

Information About ACSMA & Its Members



ACSMA: <http://www.acsma.org.uk/about-acsma/>

The AntiCoagulation Self-Monitoring Alliance (ACSMA) comprises four of the UK's leading charities and patient groups – AntiCoagulation Europe; the Children's Heart Federation; AF Association; Mechanical Heart Valve Support Group – that exist to provide advice, support and guidance to people on oral anticoagulation therapy, as well as their families and healthcare professionals. Healthcare company Roche is also part of the alliance.

What are ACSMA's aims?

ACSMA is campaigning for greater choice for patients on warfarin about how their condition should be managed. Its goal is to empower patients and we believe where possible they should have the choice about whether to self-test or self-manage their treatment. ACSMA believes that this change would enable improved health outcomes and save time and money for both patients and the NHS.

Background

There are more than 1.2 million people in the UK on warfarin of which less than two per cent benefit from self-monitoring, despite evidence that it can cut the risk of death by nearly two-fifths and more than halve the risk of strokes. ACSMA launched its campaign in October 2012 with the specific objective of achieving greater access via prescription to INR self-monitoring technology for people receiving warfarin therapy. ACSMA is also seeking to raise awareness of the benefits of self-monitoring and aims to ensure that people are equipped to have informed discussions with their healthcare professionals on this topic.

Objectives

- To ensure INR self-monitoring technology is available, accessible and on prescription through the NHS for eligible patients
- Increase awareness of the benefits of INR self-monitoring
- To ensure those taking long term warfarin are able to have an informed discussion with their doctor about self-monitoring

The Members of ACSMA

AntiCoagulation Europe (ACE): <http://www.anticoagulationeurope.org/>

AntiCoagulation Europe is a UK registered charity founded in the year 2000. Its aims to improve on the prevention of thrombosis; the provision of information, education and support; and the promotion of independence - supporting people to take an active part in their own healthcare.

AF Association: <http://www.atrialfibrillation.org.uk/>

An international charity, which provides information, support and access to established, new or innovative treatments for Atrial Fibrillation (AF).

Children's Heart Federation: <http://www.chfed.org.uk/>

The Children's Heart Federation is the leading children's heart charity and direct service provider as well as the umbrella body for voluntary organisations; working to meet the needs of children and young people with congenital and acquired heart conditions and their families.

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Mechanical Heart Valve Support Group (MHV): <http://www.mechanicalheartvalve.co.uk/>

Mechanical Heart Valve support group for people who are having mechanical heart valve & artificial & plastic heart valve replacement surgery.

Roche: <http://www.roche.co.uk/portal/uk>

A Swiss global health-care company that operates worldwide under two divisions: Pharmaceuticals and Diagnostics.