NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

NICE indicator guidance

Date first published on NICE menu: August 2014

Last update: October 2020

# Indicator NM82

In those patients with atrial fibrillation with a record of a CHA2DS2-VASc score of 2 or more, the percentage of patients who are currently treated with anticoagulation drug therapy.

# Indicator type

General practice indicator suitable for use in the Quality and Outcomes Framework.

# Rationale

Untreated atrial fibrillation is a significant risk factor for stroke and other morbidities. Anticoagulation therapy can help to prevent strokes by reducing the likelihood of a blood clot forming. NICE recommends offering anticoagulation to people with a CHA2DS2-VASc score of 2 or more. This indicator aims to support treatment with anticoagulation drug therapy in patients with atrial fibrillation.

# Source guidance

[Atrial fibrillation: diagnosis and management. NICE guideline 196](https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/NG196) (2014), recommendations 1.6.3 and 1.6.5.

# Specification

Numerator: The number of patients in the denominator who were prescribed oral anticoagulants in the 6 months leading up to and including the payment period end date.

Denominator: The number of patients with most recent CHA2DS2-VASc stroke risk assessment score of 2 or more and those who did not have a CHA2DS2-VASc but they had a CHADS2 stroke risk assessment score of 2 or more.

Calculation: (Numerator/denominator)\*100

Exclusions: patients with a persisting oral anticoagulant contraindication anywhere on their record and patients who have an expiring oral anticoagulant contraindication recorded in the preceding 12 months.

Minimum population: The indicator would be appropriate to assess performance at individual general practice level.

# Further information

This is NICE indicator guidance, which is part of the [NICE menu of indicators](https://www.nice.org.uk/Standards-and-Indicators/index). This document does not represent formal NICE guidance.