



OPEN ACCESS

Letter to the Editor

Response to ‘Lack of reversibility for NOACs’

Riyaz A Kaba^{1,2,3,4,*}, Omar Ahmed¹, Douglas Cannie²

Dear Editor,

The points raised by Al-Kindi are well made and we accept concerns raised about the current lack of reliable reversal agents for the NOACs. This is also relevant to surgeons and interventionists, not least when performing percutaneous ablation therapy for atrial fibrillation, which is now routinely undertaken without discontinuing warfarin in those patients who are on this therapy.¹ There is some early promise with regard to a specific reversal agent for Dabigatran, but large studies involving patients are necessary to adequately assess this and other such products.² Once reversal agents for NOACs are proven to be safe and effective, the use of NOACs are likely to be more widely accepted.

REFERENCES

- [1] Heidbuchel H, Verhamme P, Alings M, Antz M, Hacke W, Oldgren J, Sinnaeve P, Camm AJ, Kirchhof P. EHRA Practical Guide on the use of new oral anticoagulants in patients with non-valvular atrial fibrillation: executive summary. *Eur Heart J*. 2013;34(27):2094–2106.
- [2] van Ryn J, Litzemberger T, Gan G, Coble K, Schurer J. In Vitro Characterization, Pharmacokinetics and Reversal of Supratherapeutic Doses of Dabigatran-Induced Bleeding in Rats by a Specific Antibody Fragment Antidote to Dabigatran. *Stroke*. 2013;44:AWP261.

¹Ashford & St Peter's Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, Chertsey, UK
²Epsom General Hospital NHS Trust, Epsom, UK
³St George's Hospital NHS Trust, London, UK
⁴Royal Holloway, University of London, UK
*Email: Riyaz.Kaba@rhul.ac.uk

[http://dx.doi.org/
10.5339/gcsp.2014.2](http://dx.doi.org/10.5339/gcsp.2014.2)

Submitted: 27 January 2014
Accepted: 29 January 2014
© 2014 Kaba, Ahmed, Cannie,
licensee Bloomsbury Qatar
Foundation Journals. This is an open
access article distributed under the
terms of the Creative Commons
Attribution license CC BY 4.0, which
permits unrestricted use,
distribution and reproduction in any
medium, provided the original work
is properly cited.