

ABSTRACT

Analysis of patient adherence to treatment by DOAC I

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Introduction and aims: Atrial fibrillation (AF) is the most common supraventricular tachyarrhythmia associated with increased morbidity and mortality. In clinical practice, direct oral anticoagulants (DOAC) are used as an alternative to warfarin to prevent thromboembolic events in patients with AF. The study aimed to analyse the statements of patients with FiP along with data from medical records focusing on aspects related to the use and management of DOAC, including devices and tools to improve adherence to treatment, patients' level of awareness of DOAC and other therapeutic agents used.

Methods: The prospective study was conducted from 2020 to 2022 at the University Hospital Brno. Patients aged ≥ 18 years with AF on DOAC therapy (dabigatran, rivaroxaban and apixaban) were included in the study. Data about pharmacotherapy and patients' health status were obtained from medical records and structured interview with the patient. Patients' interviews were performed at time 0, three and six months after patient has entered the study. Quantification and classification of individual diagnoses and drugs were performed as part of the analysis. Data were analysed using descriptive statistics.

Results: Data from 96 patients (53 males) with mean age of 73.3 ± 8.1 were available for analysis in this study. Rivaroxaban was the most commonly prescribed DOAC in 39 (40.6%) patients. The mean number of prescribed drugs for patients was 7.1 ± 3.0 obtained from medical records. Our study showed that 20 (62.5%) patients among dabigatran users kept this medication in the medication dispenser and 5 (12.8%) patients among rivaroxaban users took this drug before meal.

Conclusions: This work has demonstrated that some patients were not sufficiently educated about the management of DOAC by health professionals and there is still a space for improvement in this area.

Keywords: Patient adherence, DOAC, atrial fibrillation.