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New oral anticoagulants for stroke prevention in Atrial Fibrillation

Atrial fibrillation is one of the most common arrhythmia in adults and it is one of the major causes of stroke. The stroke due to Atrial Fibrillation (AF) is usually more severe comparing with other etiologies. Warfarin has been the gold standard medication to prevent stroke in AF patients with success rate about 65%. However, warfarin has many drawbacks: it has unpredictable response, narrow therapeutic window, slow onset/offset action, many interactions with food and medication, need continuous monitoring with about 50% only in the therapeutic range. New Oral Anticoagulants (NOAC) approved few years ago have faster onset/offset action, no need for monitoring and less interaction with food and medication. Several randomized studies confirm that NOAC is as effective as warfarin or even more effective in some cases, and it is safer and more convenient to use. However, it is much more expensive. The clinical application and practical aspect of their usage will be discussed further during the presentation.

Biography

Omar Kamel Hallak is currently Chief of Interventional Cardiology Department at American Hospital Dubai; President (Gulf Chapter) of International Society of Endovascular Specialists; Chairman of 4TS international conference and; previous board member of Emirate Cardiac Society. He completed his Post-graduate training and research in United States at University of Illinois, Chicago, North Western University and Louisiana University in New Orleans. He is Board Certified in Interventional Cardiology, Cardiovascular Disease, Vascular Medicine, Endovascular Medicine, Nuclear Cardiology and Internal Medicine. He was Head of Cardiology Department at Saint Francis Hospital in USA, and Assistant Professor at LSU New Orleans and University of West Virginia. He has performed thousands of procedures including Cardiac and Peripheral Vascular Intervention in addition to pacemaker and ICD/CRT implantation. He participated in many national and international research studies with many publications. He involved extensively in local, regional and international cardiology conferences as a Speaker and as a Chairman.

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