



15th May 2025 (#6)

## **Direct-acting Oral Anticoagulants (DOACs): Changes to Prescribing**

### ***Message from BSol ICB's Medicines Management and Optimisation Team***

Birmingham and Solihull (BSol) Integrated Care System and BSol ICB's Medicines Management and Optimisation Team regularly review the value which medicines deliver, ensuring they are in line with current clinical evidence, whilst delivering best value for the NHS. It is important to us that any changes to prescribing across the system that could impact community pharmacies are promptly communicated.

Previously, edoxaban was the Direct-acting Oral Anticoagulant (DOAC) of choice in line with national guidance. However, with the recent invalidation of patents for apixaban and rivaroxaban and the early introduction of generics, NHS England has identified apixaban as the first choice 'twice daily' DOAC and rivaroxaban as the first choice 'once daily' DOAC due to their effectiveness and better value to the NHS. This change is also reflected in the recently published 25/26 NHS Operational guidance and the BSol Integrated Medicines Optimisation Committee formulary. From 1 June 2025, GP practices across Birmingham and Solihull will be undertaking a review program of all their registered patients prescribed edoxaban, and where appropriate changing this medication to either **apixaban** or **rivaroxaban**.

Where new medicines have been commenced, the community pharmacist may be able to provide support via the [New Medicines Service](#), where this would be clinically appropriate and where the patient meets the [eligibility criteria](#).

**We hope the following information will support you to adjust your stock inventory accordingly and reduce any potential delay in patients accessing medicines.**

Many Thanks,

BSol ICB's Medicines Management and Optimisation Team

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<https://birmingham-solihull.communitypharmacy.org.uk>



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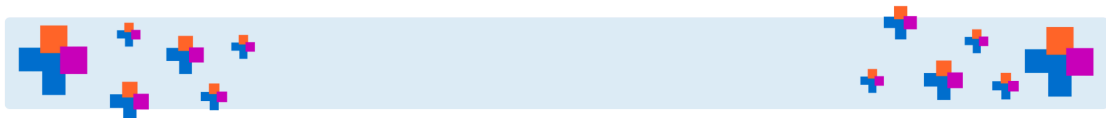
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