Special Issue

Monitoring Anticoagulant

Message from the Guest Editor

This Special Issue, "Monitoring Anticoagulants", aims to update laboratory monitoring practice for current anticoagulants and those more recently introduced, and which require a much lighter survey, except for some well-defined cases at risk of bleeding or thrombosis recurrence. Since the introduction of the first anticoagulant treatments, Vitamin K antagonists and Heparins, the prognosis of thrombotic diseases has been revolutionized. A wide variety of anticoagulants or antithrombotics have been introduced these past years, and requirements for therapy monitoring are highly dependent on the drug. The major associated clinical risks concern occurrence of hemorrhages, whose incidence depends on the patient's clinical state and drug dosage adjustment. As major bleedings are lifethreatening, when present, anticoagulation needs to be reversed without delay. Monitoring efficacy of this reversal is part of the follow-up of anticoagulant therapy.

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Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (31 January 2021)



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Impact Factor 3.9 CiteScore 6.8 Indexed in PubMed



mdpi.com/si/31758

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