

**MURC 2019**

**Presentation ID:** 128

**Presentation Format:** Poster Presentation

**Presentation Title:** Patient’s knowledge and beliefs about oral anticoagulants: a systematic review of the literature

**Background**

Oral anticoagulants (OACs) are a group of medications that reduce the risk of thrombosis. These include warfarin, dabigatran, rivaroxaban, dabigatran and apixaban. Anticoagulant therapy is complex and can be difficult for patients to understand. Identifying patients’ knowledge gaps is the first step towards improving patient education strategies. To date, there are no systematic reviews of patients’ knowledge gaps surrounding OACs.

**Methods**

Following PRISMA guidelines, we systematically searched PubMed, CINAHL, and PSYCHINFO for qualitative and quantitative studies that measured patients’ knowledge about their anticoagulants.

Keywords included knowledge gap, medications, and closely related terms.

**Results**

We identified 290 studies from our initial search. Title and abstract screening led to 134 studies whose full-text was reviewed for eligibility. Majority of the full texts were excluded for having irrelevant focus (n=70) or being editorials, opinion papers, letters to editors, or conference proceedings (n=12). Finally, 41 studies were included in this review(n=11220 patients), which were mostly published after 2010. Of the 41 studies, 14 were conducted in North America, 23 Europe, 3 Asia, and 6 in Australia. Majority of the studies assessed patient knowledge on warfarin (n=27) with very few focusing on the newer OACs (dabigatran:7, aspirin:3, apixaban:4, rivaroxaban:4). Over half of the included studies (71%) had utilized validated tools to assess patients’ knowledge.

**Conclusion**

Our results highlight the need for more studies on this topic particularly in Africa and South America and on the newer medications.

**Themes:**

Check (highlight) the most applicable theme according to the abstract.

<input type="checkbox"/> Innovation and Technology	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Health and Wellness	<input type="checkbox"/> Culture and Society	<input type="checkbox"/> Sustainability and Conservation
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Comments: [This is a good start but you may need to provide more information. You do not need the headings in your abstract \(e.g. background, methods, etc.\) as these should be understood through the flow of your abstract. Can you further explain the implications of your research?](#)

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Elaine Hu, Science, (e.hu@alumni.ubc.ca)   
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