

Reducing harm from high-risk medicines

Warfarin: Reduce harm and measure effectiveness with INR monitoring

Check other medicines prescribed or purchased including alternative products.

- Document the target INR – aim for the middle of the range not the bottom (risk of undertreating).
- Interactions can affect the INR and result in harm, for example:
 - many antibiotics and antifungals (increase monitoring when starting or stopping medicines that may affect warfarin control)
 - some over-the-counter and alternative medicines
 - alcohol
 - green leafy vegetables (aim for a consistent daily intake).
- Check the patient's understanding of INR monitoring.



For more information, see: www.open.hqsc.govt.nz/medication/warfarin



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www.open.hqsc.govt.nz