

# Atrial Fibrillation

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## Patient Safety

### **S-M 9000006 Patient(s) taking warfarin that had 3 or more prothrombin time tests in last 6 reported months.**

The international normalization ratio (INR) should be determined at least weekly during the initiation of warfarin therapy and monthly when the patient is stable (1). For the purpose of this rule, it is assumed that all patients receiving warfarin therapy are taking maintenance therapy; monthly INR determination at minimum would be recommended. This is a Class I\* recommendation from the ACC/AHA/ESC Guidelines for the Management of Patients with Atrial Fibrillation (1). The consensus opinion of experts was the primary source of our recommendation for three or more prothrombin time tests at minimum every 6 months for patients taking warfarin.

1. *Fuster V, Rydén LE, Asinger RW, Cannom DS, Crijns HJ, Curtis AB, Ellenbogen KA, Halperin JL, Le Heuzey J-Y, Kay GN, Lowe JE, Olsson SB, Prystowsky EN, Tamargo JL, Wann S, Smith SC, Jacobs AK, Adams CD, Anderson JL, Antman EM, Hunt SA, Nishimura R, Omato JP, Page RL, Riegel B, Priori SG, Blanc J-J, Budaj A, Camm AJ, Dean V, Deckers JW, Despres C, Dickstein K, Lekakis J, McGregor K, Metra M, Morais J, Osterspey A, Zamorano JL. ACC/AHA/ESC 2006 guidelines for the management of patients with atrial fibrillation - executive summary: a report of the American College of Cardiology/American Heart Association Task Force and the European Society of Cardiology Committee for Practice Guidelines (Writing Committee to Revise the 2001 Guidelines for the Management of Patients With Atrial Fibrillation). J Am Coll Cardiol 2006;48:854-906.*