

Perioperative Management of Patients Receiving Anticoagulants

- **Warfarin**
 - Discontinue 5 days prior to an elective surgery
 - 1/2 life of warfarin is 36-42 hours
- **Dabigatran - direct thrombin inhibitor**
 - Discontinue 1 day prior to low/moderate bleeding risk surgery
 - Discontinue 2 days prior to high bleeding risk surgery
- **Rivaroxaban and Apixaban- direct factor Xa inhibitors**
 - Discontinue 1 day prior to low/moderate bleeding risk surgery
 - Discontinue 2 days prior to high bleeding risk surgery
- **Lovenox (LMWH)**
 - Discontinue 24 hours prior to surgery
 - often used for anticoagulation bridging
- **Heparin (UFH)**
 - Discontinue 4-6 hours prior to surgery
 - often used for anticoagulation bridging
- **Antiplatelet medications (Aspirin and Plavix)**
 - ***Consult with cardiology/PCP if these medications can be held
 - Discontinue 7 days prior to surgery in low risk cardiac patients