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[date]

Dear [patient’s name]

As discussed in your recent consultation, guidance has changed nationally and in Dorset regarding the first-choice anticoagulant (blood thinner). The reason for this updated guidance is to have blood thinners prescribed for more patients in England to reduce the chances of stroke for an extra 600,000 people.

Doctors have now been advised that a medication called **edoxaban** is the first-choice medication for all patients with atrial fibrillation.

The anticoagulant you are currently prescribed is apixaban. This is going to be changed to edoxaban.

Research shows that edoxaban is safe and effective at reducing the risk of stroke in people with atrial fibrillation and is available at a lower cost to the NHS.

**Edoxaban is only taken ONCE a day so you may find it easier to take.**

We have reviewed your most recent blood test results and have prescribed a dose of 30mg/60 mg **(Delete as appropriate) ONCE** **daily** of edoxaban for you. Although one medicine appears “stronger” than another, the dose prescribed of edoxaban is equivalent to your old medicine.

As a result of this, we have made the following changes to your repeat medicines.

Your current repeat prescription is for:

**Apixaban 2.5mg/5mg (delete as appropriate) tablets. Take ONE tablet twice a day.**

When you order your next prescription, this will have been stopped and replaced with:

**Edoxaban 30/60mg (delete as appropriate) tablets. Take ONE tablet ONCE a day.**

Please update and carry with you the “Alert Card” supplied with your new medication and discard your old card.

Yours sincerely,

[name of GP]

[name of practice]