Prevention of Cardioembolic Stroke in Patients with Nonvalvular Atrial Fibrillation: Balancing the Evidence and Patient Preferences

DIRECTOR
Jose G. Merino, MD, MPhil Bethesda, MD

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION
This program will provide a review of strategies to diagnose NVAF in patients with stroke and therapeutic alternatives for stroke prevention. Emphasis will be placed on strategies to identify patients at high risk of recurrent stroke and of complications from treatment, and ways to engage patients in shared decision-making. Faculty will review the evidence for long-term cardiac monitoring and the use of warfarin and new oral anticoagulants in stroke patients.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES
Upon completion, participants should be able to:

– Understand the clinical situations that warrant long-term cardiac monitoring
– Identify the different options for long-term outpatient cardiac monitoring
– Describe the evidence that supports the use of warfarin and other oral anticoagulants to prevent recurrent stroke
– Use risk scores to identify patients most and least likely to benefit or be harmed from anticoagulation for stroke prevention
– Engage patients in the decision of which prophylactic agent to use based on their preferences

RECOMMENDED AUDIENCE
Practitioners, Academicians, Residents, and Fellows

CORE COMPETENCIES
Patient Care; Medical Knowledge; Interpersonal and Communication Skills; Practice-based Learning and Improvement; Professionalism; Systems-based Practice

SCHEDULE

8:00 Diagnosing NVAF for Stroke Prevention
Richard A. Bernstein, MD, PhD Chicago, IL

8:40 Using Risk Scores to Identify Patients for Treatment and Use of Anticoagulants in Special Populations
Oscar R. Benavente, MD, FRCP(C) Vancouver, BC, Canada

9:20 Break

9:40 Anticoagulants in the Prevention of Stroke in Patients With NVAF
Mitchell S. V. Elkind, MD, MS, FAAN New York, NY

10:20 Engaging Patients in Shared Decision-making About Stroke Prevention
Jose G. Merino, MD, MPhil Bethesda, MD

RECOMMENDED COMPANION COURSE
Integrated Neuroscience Session: New Antithrombotic Agents in Stroke Prevention
Despite advances in management of acute stroke, prevention of ischemic and hemorrhagic cerebrovascular disease remains a challenge. Novel oral anticoagulants (NOACs), a new class of drugs recently approved for prevention of strokes in atrial fibrillation, hold promise of an effective and safe therapy. This didactic interactive program will dissect the biological rationale and clinical evidence for use of NOACs in stroke prevention. Practical use of NOACs in real-life case scenarios and managing associated challenges will be discussed by the experts. Clinical science for future use and research ideas will be presented, and the participants will engage actively in testing their knowledge of NOAC's use.

**LEARNING OBJECTIVES**
Upon completion, participants should:

- Understand the biological, pharmacological, and clinical rationale for the NOAC’s use in stroke prevention
- Review the opportunities and challenges of NOAC’s use for stroke prevention
- Understand the principles of management of thrombotic and hemorrhagic complications in patients using NOACs
- Review the potential future use of NOACs in stroke treatment and prevention

**RECOMMENDED AUDIENCE**
General Neurologists, Vascular Neurologists, Trainees, Acute Stroke Program Directors, Stroke Nurses

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### Integrated Neuroscience Session: New Antithrombotic Agents in Stroke Prevention

**DIRECTOR**
Natalia Sana Rost, MD, FAAN, Boston, MA

**PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

**SCHEDULE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Speaker(s)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1:00</td>
<td>Introduction &amp; Challenging Cases</td>
<td>Natalia Sana Rost, MD, FAAN, Boston, MA</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:15</td>
<td>NOACs: Biology, Pharmacology, and Evidence for Clinical Use</td>
<td>Natalia Sana Rost, MD, FAAN, Boston, MA</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:45</td>
<td>Challenges and Opportunities in Clinical Use of NOACs</td>
<td>David M. Greer, MD, New Haven, CT</td>
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<td>2:15</td>
<td>Management of Thrombotic and Bleeding Complications</td>
<td>Jose Biller, MD, FAAN, FACP, FAHA, Chicago, IL</td>
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<td>2:45</td>
<td>Future of NOACs: Potential Clinical and Research Use</td>
<td>Mitchell S. V. Elkind, MD, MS, FAAN, New York, NY</td>
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<td>3:15</td>
<td>Challenging Cases</td>
<td>Natalia Sana Rost, MD, FAAN, Boston, MA</td>
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<tr>
<td>3:25</td>
<td>Moderated Expert Panel Questions and Answers</td>
<td>Faculty</td>
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**RECOMMENDED COMPANION COURSE**
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