Clinical Advisory

To: Advanced Paramedics  
c.c.: NAS Leadership Team  
From: Medical Director  
Date: March 26th 2012  
Subject: PRE-HOSPITAL THROMBOLYSIS AND NEW ORAL ANTI-COAGULANT AGENTS

Dear colleagues,

Pre-hospital thrombolysis is currently contra-indicated for advanced paramedics if the patient is on oral anti-coagulant therapy. Until recently, this effectively was confined to warfarin.

There are now two new oral anti-coagulant drugs on the market-rivaroxaban (trade name: xarelto) and dabigatran (trade name: pradaxa). Patients taking either of these drugs should not receive pre-hospital thrombolysis.

Dr. Cathal O'Donnell,  
Medical Director,