**Anticoagulation Directions**

**WATCHMAN: Left Atrial Appendage Closure Device**

To Whom It May Concern:

Mr./Ms. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_is scheduled to undergo implantation of a WATCHMAN left atrial appendage closure device by Drs. X, X,or X on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

We are contacting you to inform you about the specific anticoagulation requirements for patients receiving these devices.

* Anticoagulation with Coumadin is required prior to and for about 7 weeks after the procedure until absence of thrombus is confirmed via TEE.
* Please call [###-###-####] and speak with [NAME 1], [NAME 2], or the procedure physicians if any questions or concerns arise.

**Coumadin Management BEFORE WATCHMAN Implant:**

* If a patient is taking Coumadin, it is continued.
* Weekly INR’s. The goal is an INR between 2.0 –3.0.
* Notify \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ if temporary stoppage is necessary.
* The procedure may need to be rescheduled.
* If a patient is taking Eliquis, Pradaxa, Savayesa, or Xarelto it will be stopped 3 days before the procedure and Coumadin 5 mg once a day will be started.

**Coumadin Management After Implant**

* Uninterrupted Coumadin therapy is essential to prevent stroke and clot formation for about 7 weeks following device implantation..
* Weekly INR checks. The goal is an INR of 2.0–3.0.
* Do NOT permanently stop Coumadin.
* If a temporary stoppage of Coumadin is necessary due to a high INR, please notify \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* Based on the TEE results 45 days after the procedure:
* the patient may be directed to discontinue Coumadin and to start Plavix and Aspirin; or it may be necessary to continue Coumadin
* Plavix and Aspirin are continued for 6 months from implant.
* Plavix may be discontinued at 6 months but Aspirin will be continued.

Thank you in advance for working with us to optimize patient care to ensure a successful outcome.