



**Re: Direct Oral Anticoagulant, Apixaban (Eliquis®)**

1<sup>st</sup> September 2019

Dear Colleagues,

Following a review published in March 2019, apixaban is considered the Direct Oral Anticoagulant (DOAC) of choice by the HSE-Medicines Management Programme. In view of this, from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2019, there is no longer a requirement to make an online application for reimbursement of apixaban.

Currently in Ireland apixaban is licensed and reimbursed for use in the following circumstances:

- Prevention of stroke and systemic embolism in adult patients with non-valvular atrial fibrillation with one or more risk factors, such as prior stroke or transient ischaemic attack (TIA), hypertension, age  $\geq$  75 years, diabetes mellitus, symptomatic heart failure (NYHA Class  $\geq$  II)
- Treatment of deep vein thrombosis (DVT) and pulmonary embolism (PE), and prevention of recurrent DVT and PE in adults
- Prophylaxis of thromboembolism in adult patients after elective total knee replacement or total hip replacement.

It is important to note that there is still a requirement to apply for reimbursement of all other DOACs (dabigatran, edoxaban and rivaroxaban) via the online application system.

I wish to thank you for your co-operation with this prescribing initiative and your ongoing support of the Medicines Management Programme.

With best wishes,

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Professor Michael Barry

National Clinical Lead, Medicines Management Programme