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BRIDGING GUIDELINES

If you are advised to stop taking Coumadin for any procedure, test or operation then BRIDGING with anticoagulation shots maintains your full protection against clotting while you wait before, during and after the needed procedure, test or operation.

- Day -5** STOP Coumadin on the date advised by the doctor. Do NOT take any Coumadin tonite. (FYI: We recommend stopping at least 5 days prior to your procedure, test or operation date so *our* instructions start as **Day -5**)
- Day -4** NO Coumadin. START Lovenox shots (the BRIDGE) twice a day. Your Lovenox dose is based on your weight. The syringes only come in 20mg increments so you may need to waste medication down to your dose level.
- Day -3** NO Coumadin. BRIDGE with Lovenox shots twice a day.
- Day -2** NO Coumadin. BRIDGE with Lovenox shots twice a day.
- Day -1** NO Coumadin. BRIDGE with a Lovenox shot morning ONLY. Do NOT take a night Lovenox shot as final preparation for next day procedure, test or operation.
- Day 0** PROCEDURE, TEST OR OPERATION. NO Coumadin. NO Lovenox. Afterward, be sure to ask the doctor their recommendation about what date they want you to restart anticoagulants. Whatever date they suggest is considered **Day +1** below.
- Day +1** RESTART BRIDGE with Lovenox shots twice a day. RESTART Coumadin tonite at prior usual dose.
- Day +2** BRIDGE with Lovenox shots twice daily. Coumadin tonite at prior usual dose.
- Day +3** BRIDGE with Lovenox shots twice daily. Coumadin tonite at prior usual dose.
- Day +4** STOP Lovenox shots (UNBRIDGE). Coumadin tonite at prior usual dose.
- Day +5** Coumadin tonite at prior usual dose. NO more Lovenox shots. You are now back where you were before starting to BRIDGE. You need an INR recheck in the next several days.