



OSCE Checklist: Warfarin Counselling

| Opening the consultation | |
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| 1 | Wash your hands and don PPE if appropriate |
| 2 | Introduce yourself to the patient including your name and role |
| 3 | Confirm the patient's name and date of birth |
| 4 | Explain the reason for the consultation |
| Ideas, concerns and expectations | |
| 5 | Explore what the patient currently understands about warfarin and why they are being prescribed it |
| 6 | Ask if the patient has any concerns about warfarin |
| 7 | Explore what the patient is hoping to get out of the consultation |
| How warfarin works | |
| 8 | Explain that warfarin works by thinning the blood |
| 9 | Explain what warfarin can be used to treat |
| 10 | Explain that the action of warfarin can be reversed with an antidote if needed |
| INR | |
| 11 | Explain what INR is |
| 12 | Explain what the patient's target INR range is |
| 13 | Explain how INR is monitored |
| How to take warfarin | |
| 14 | Explain that warfarin should be taken at the same time each day |
| 15 | Explain the different types of warfarin tablets |
| 16 | Explain what the patient should do if they forget a dose |
| 17 | Advise the patient to let medical professionals know that they take warfarin when they are being prescribed new medications |
| 18 | Advise the patient to let the team managing their anticoagulation know when they start taking a new medication |
| 19 | Advise the patient about the importance of effective contraception if taking warfarin (if relevant) |
| Bleeding whilst taking warfarin | |
| 20 | Explain that the main side effect of warfarin is bleeding more easily than normal |
| 21 | Explain the common types of 'less serious bleeding' and what to do if they experience them |
| 22 | Explain the rarer types of 'serious bleeding' and what to do if they experience them |

| Other side effects of warfarin | |
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| 23 | Explain the common side effects of warfarin (other than bleeding) |
| 24 | Explain the rarer and more serious side effects of warfarin |
| Lifestyle advice | |
| 25 | Advise the patient about the impact of diet on the effect of warfarin |
| 26 | Advise the patient about the impact of alcohol on the effect of warfarin |
| 27 | Advise the patient about brushing teeth, shaving and dental procedures |
| Yellow booklets and alert card | |
| 28 | Provide the patient with information about the INR monitoring booklet and patient information booklet |
| 29 | Explain the importance of carrying the anticoagulant alert card with them at all times |
| Closing the consultation | |
| 30 | Summarise the key points back to the patient |
| 31 | Ask the patient if they have any questions or concerns that have not been addressed |
| 32 | Arrange appropriate follow-up |
| 33 | Thank the patient for their time |
| 34 | Dispose of PPE appropriately and wash your hands |
| Key communication skills | |
| 35 | Active listening |
| 36 | Summarising |
| 37 | Signposting |

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