



5 mg Warfarin Dosing Initiation Guidelines

A starting dose of 5 mg should be considered for patients with any of the following risk factors:

Age > 70	Wt < 50 kg	Recent history of bleeding
CHF (uncompensated)	Liver failure	Recent surgery
Hct < 30	PT increased on admission	Interacting drugs
Nutritionally depleted (NPO > 3 days)	History of falls	

Contraindications to warfarin:

Absolute	Relative
Severe or active bleeding diathesis	Uncontrolled hypertension (180/100)
Non-compliance	Severe liver disease
First trimester of pregnancy	Recent surgery involving nervous system, spine or eye.

Warfarin Loading (5mg Nomogram)		
Day	INR	Dosage (mg)
1	< 1.5	5
2	1.5 – 1.9	5
	2.0 – 2.5	2.5
	> 2.5	1 – 2.5
3	< 1.5	7.5 – 10
	1.5 -1.9	5 – 7.5
	2.0 -2.5	2.5 – 5
	> 3.0	0
4	< 1.5	10
	1.5 -1.9	5 -7.5
	2.0 -3.0	2.5 – 5
	> 3.0	0
5	< 1.5	10
	1.5 -1.9	7.5 -10
	2.0 -3.0	2.5 – 5
	> 3.0	0
6	< 1.5	10 -12.5
	1.5 -1.9	5 - 10
	2.0 -3.0	2.5 - 5
	> 3.0	0

Therapeutic INR Range:

INR = 2.0 -3.0: Most indications for warfarin therapy

INR = 2.5 – 3.5: Prosthetic valves, VTE when INR already 2.0 -3.0

Frequency of INR Monitoring

During the induction phase: INR should be monitored every 1 -3 days (initially daily if on therapeutic heparin) until the INR is the therapeutic range for two consecutive values.

Follow-up INR should be performed frequently (2- 3 times a week) to ensure that it remains in target range if: inter-current illness, medication change or significant diet change.



Drugs that can diminish the anticoagulant effect of warfarin	Drugs that can Potentiate the anticoagulant effect of warfarin.
Carbamazepine (Tegretol) Cholestyramine Colestipol Cyclosporine Dicloxacillin Ethanol Griseofulvin Nafcillin Pentobarbital Phenobarbital Phenytoin Primidone Rifabutin Rifampin Sulcralfate	Aspirin Acetaminophen Amiodarone Cefotetan Celecoxib Choral hydrate Cimetidine Ciprofloxacin Clarithromycin Clofibrate Cotrimoxazole Disopyramide Disulfiram Erythromycin Fluconazole Gemfibrozil Isoniazid Itraconazole Ketoconazole Levofloxacin Metolazone Metronidazole Norfloxacin Ofloxacin Omeprazole Propafenone Thyroid hormone trazadone