

**SOS Rx Coalition Meeting
April 2, 2008**

Information and Education Project Update

As was discussed at the last SOS Rx meeting this past September, the Information and Education Project focuses on developing on oral anticoagulants. This consumer-friendly resource will be primarily for the patient, and the information will be added to the www.mybloodthinner.org website. The information included in the online resource will focus on providing patients with the tools to effectively and healthfully manage oral anticoagulant therapy.

To help the coalition select useful and appropriate information for the online resource, a small advisory group of stakeholders from SOS Rx was assembled. Advisory group members include representatives from the following organizations: Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, American Association of University Women, American Society of Consultant Pharmacists, American Society of Health-System Pharmacists Research & Education Foundation, AstraZeneca, Food and Drug Administration, National Alliance for Caregiving, National Council on Patient Information and Education, and National Consumers League.

During the first conference call on March 10, the group accomplished the following:

- Confirmed the list of criteria to be used to determine which websites and online resources to include;
- Reviewed an initial set of websites gathered by NCL for potential inclusion on mybloodthinner.org based on whether they meet the selected criteria; and
- Briefly discussed the idea of accreditation (i.e., deciding to use only accredited websites, or looking into accrediting mybloodthinner.org).

Since the conference call, the websites approved by the advisory group have been added to the “Research & Resources” page on the www.mybloodthinner.org website. Additionally, materials about the project have been added to the www.sosrx.org website.

Ongoing tasks for the advisory group include:

- Periodically reviewing websites selected by NCL and other SOS Rx coalition member organizations for potential inclusion on mybloodthinner.org based on whether or not they meet the selected criteria;
- Confirming the organization of resources on the website; and
- Continuing to explore the idea of accreditation (i.e., deciding to use only accredited websites, or looking into accrediting mybloodthinner.org).

Action Item: Let us know of any online resources for potential inclusion in this project.

Next Steps: NCL will continue to gather information on possible resources, and another advisory committee call will be scheduled to engage in the ongoing tasks as described above.

Information and Education Project
Screen Shot of Revised “Research & Resources” Page
(www.mybloodthinner.org/research.htm)

In addition to those that were already included on the website, we have added six new resources and have reorganized them under the following categories:

- FDA Information
- General Information on Use of Oral Anticoagulants
- Focus on Special Populations
- Focus on Diet
- Focus on Genetic Testing
- Research
- Information on Strokes and Other Conditions Related to Oral Anticoagulants
- Other Information on Using Medications Safely

Below you can find a screen shot of the newly revised “Research & Resources” page on the www.mybloodthinner.org website.

The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the 'mybloodthinner.org' website. The browser's address bar shows the URL 'http://www.mybloodthinner.org/research.htm'. The website's header features the logo 'mybloodthinner.org' and a navigation menu with links for 'for patients >>>', 'for providers >>>', 'for caregivers >>>', 'research & resources >>>', and 'about us >>>'. The main content area is titled 'Oral Anticoagulant Research and Resources' and 'Resources for Patients and Caregivers'. It contains several resource boxes:

- FDA Information:** FDA Medication Guide for Oral Anticoagulant Coumadin (Oct. 2006). The text states: 'The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Bristol-Myers Squibb (manufacturers of Coumadin) have recently notified pharmacists and physicians of revisions to the labeling for Coumadin, to include a new patient Medication Guide as well as a reorganization and highlighting of the current safety information to better inform providers and patients. Click [here](#) for more information. FDA regulations require a Medication Guide to be provided with each prescription that is dispensed for products that FDA determines pose a serious and significant public health concern. Information about all currently approved Medication Guides is available [here](#).'
- Focus on Special Populations:** [The Heart Surgery Forum: A cardiothoracic multimedia journal](#). The text states: 'This resource provides helpful information for the parents or caregivers of teenagers taking warfarin.'
- Focus on Diet:** [Important Drug and Food Information](#). The text states: 'This handout provides helpful dietary information about the interaction between warfarin and vitamin K. This material was originally put together for individuals participating in the NIH research setting.'
- American Academy of Family Physicians:** The text states: 'This resource provides information from a clinical study showing that American ginseng can reduce the efficiency of warfarin.'
- General Information on Use of Oral Anticoagulants:** [AHRQ Patient Guide to Coumadin/warfarin therapy](#)