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Clinical pharmacology and therapeutics lecture notes pdf

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suppression (rare) • Cautions: o First few days following MI / CVA • Interactions: o Warfarin: increased risk of bleeding Abciximab: • Indications: o Patients awaiting PTCA: Short-term prevention of MI in those with ACS o Patients undergoing PTCA: Adjunct to aspirin and heparin • Mechanism of action: o Monoclonal antibody to GP IIb/IIIa o Inhibit platelet aggregation • Adverse effects: o Bleeding o Thrombocytopenia Warfarin: • Indications: o Prevention / treatment of VTE: DVT PE o Prevention of thromboembolism: AF Prosthetic heart valves • Mechanism of action: o Vitamin K antagonist o Inhibits the vitamin K-dependent synthesis of clotting factors II, VII, IX and X o Also inhibits formation of protein C and S: Has an initial procoagulant effect o Takes at least 2-3 days to work (due to the half-life of pre- existing clotting factors in the circulation) o Prolongs the prothrombin time (PT) • Pharmacokinetics: o Long half-life (40 hours) o Takes ~5 days after stopping treatment for INR to normalise o Highly protein-bound (albumin) • Dosage: o Loading: Warfarin therapy begins with a loading dose, usually: Copyright Dr Garry KJ Pettet 2005 - 2009 63 www.garrypettet.com 67. • Day 1 - 10mg • Day 2 - 10mg measure INR and adjust dose • Day 3 - 5mg (if still not target INR) o Daily dose: Daily maintenance is usually 3-9mg daily (taken at same time each day) • INR (International Normalised Ratio): o Prothrombin results can vary depending on the thromboplastin reagent used o The INR is a conversion unit that takes into account the different sensitivities of thromboplastins o Target INRs: 2 - 2.5: • Prophylaxis of DVT 2.5; • AF • Treatment of DVT / PE • Rheumatic mitral valve disease 3.5: • Recurrent DVT / PE • Mechanical prosthetic heart valves o Monitoring the INR: The INR should be determined daily (or alternate days) in the early days of therapy, then at longer intervals (depending on response) then up to every 12 weeks • Adverse effects: o Bleeding / bruising o Skin necrosis o Alopecia o Liver damage o Pancreatitis • Management of warfarin-induced haemorrhage: o Major bleeding: Stop warfarin Give vitamin K (phytomenadione) by slow IV injection FFP o INR >8 (no bleeding or minor bleeding): Stop warfarin and restart when INR

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