

Preventing atrial fibrillation-related strokes through clinical assessment in primary care

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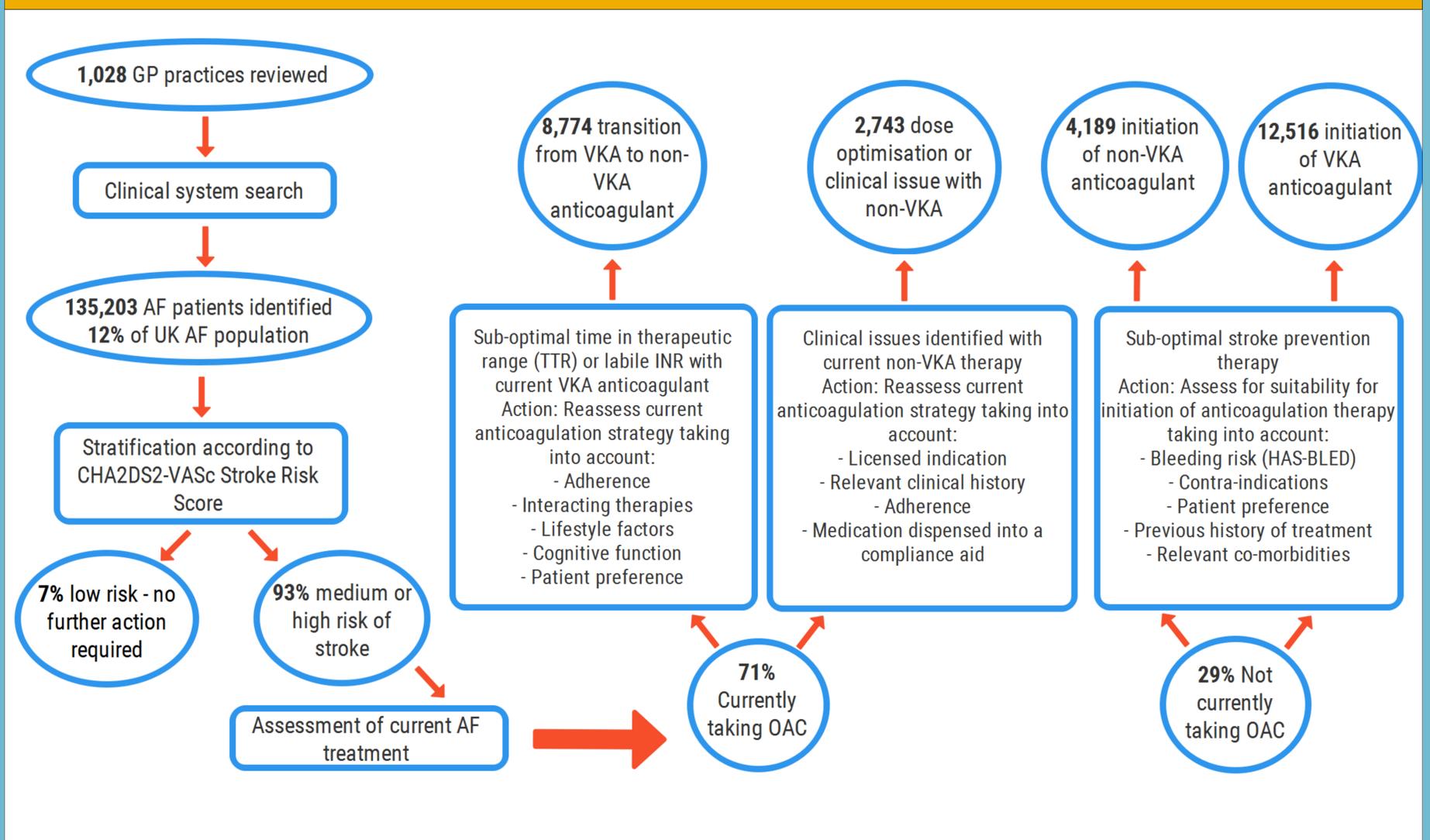
BACKGROUND

Atrial fibrillation (AF) is the most common cardiac arrhythmia, affecting more than one million people in the UK. Patients with AF are five times more likely to have a stroke¹, when a stroke is related to AF there are increased levels of mortality, morbidity, disability, and longer hospital stays. It is estimated that 7,000 strokes and over 2,000 deaths could be prevented every year through effective detection of AF and protection with anticoagulant drugs².

AIMS

The aim of this clinical assessment was to improve outcomes in stroke and thromboembolism (TE) through a systematic review of patients with AF in GP practices across the UK.

METHODOLOGY



RESULTS

NHS
£22 million saved in averted strokes³
£14.2 million benefit to the health economy

Patient
28,721 direct patient interventions to improve outcomes in Stroke Prevention in AF⁴

Practice
886 strokes⁵ prevented through effective stroke prevention measures

CONCLUSION

This clinical assessment was hugely successful both in increasing patient safety, and cost effectiveness. Therefore, Interface is continuing clinical assessments of AF patients across the UK, both with the NHS, and with industry partnerships. To date Interface has reviewed 20% of the UK AF population.

REFERENCES

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- Although higher and lower figures exist the National Audit Office estimate the cost per event of a stroke is £24,855. Progress in improving stroke care: Report on the findings from our modelling of stroke care provision. FEBRUARY 2010. National Audit Office
- Effective anticoagulation reduces the risk of stroke in AF by 64%. NHS Improvement. Heart and Stroke Improvement Commissioning for Stroke Prevention in Primary Care - The Role of Atrial Fibrillation (2009)

FUNDING

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