Thrombosis and Haemostasis

Pharmacokinetics of direct oral anticoagulants in emergency situations – Results of the prospective observational RADOA-registry


Affiliations below.

DOI: 10.1055/a-1549-6556

Please cite this article as: Lindhoff-Last E, Birschmann I, Kuhn J et al. Pharmacokinetics of direct oral anticoagulants in emergency situations – Results of the prospective observational RADOA-registry. Thromb Haemost 2021. doi: 10.1055/a-1549-6556

Conflict of Interest: Edelgard Lindhoff-Last has received lecture honoraria and advisory fees from Bayer AG, Boehringer Ingelheim, Bristol-Myers Squibb/Pfizer, Daiichi-Sankyo, Portola, CSL Behring and Aspen and institutional research support from Bayer AG, Bristol-Myers Squibb/Pfizer, Daiichi-Sankyo and CSL-Behring.

Ingvild Birschmann has received speaker’s honoraria from Bristol-Myers Squibb/Pfizer, Siemens Healthcare, LFB biomedicaments and CSL Behring and reimbursement for congress travelling and accommodation from Aspen and Bristol-Myers Squibb. She has performed contract research for Siemens Healthcare and is a member of the advisory board of LFB biomedicaments and of the expert groups of CSL Behring GmbH and Siemens Healthcare Diagnostics Products GmbH.

Joachim Kuhn: none declared.

Simone Lindau: none declared.

Stavros Konstantinides has received lecture honoraria and advisory fees from Bayer AG, Boehringer Ingelheim, MSD, Actelion, and Daiichi-Sankyo; and institutional research support from Bayer AG, Boehringer Ingelheim, MSD, Actelion, and Daiichi-Sankyo.

Oliver Grottke has received research funding from Bayer Healthcare, Boehringer Ingelheim, Biotest, CSL Behring, Octapharma, Novo Nordisk, Nycomed and Portola. He has also received honoraria for lectures and consultancy support from Bayer Healthcare, Boehringer Ingelheim, CSL Behring, Octapharma, Sanofi, Shire, Pfizer and Portola.

Ulrike Nowak-Göttl has received lecture honoraria and advisory fees from Bayer AG, Boehringer Ingelheim, Bristol-Myers Squibb/Pfizer, Octapharma and LFB.

Jessica Lucks: none declared.

Barbara Zydek: none declared.

Christian von Heymann has received honoraria for lectures and consultancy work potentially related to this topic, as well as travel reimbursements from Bayer GmbH, Biotest GmbH, Pfizer GmbH, Daiichi Sankyo, CSL Behring, NovoNordisk GmbH, and HICC GbR.

Ariane Sümüng: none declared.

Jan Beyer-Westendorf has received personal honoraria (lectures, advisory boards) and travel support from Bayer, Daiichi Sankyo, Janssen, Portola and institutional research support from Bayer, Daiichi Sankyo, Janssen, LEO, Pfizer, and Portola.

Sebastian Schellong has received honoraria for lectures from Bayer, Boehringer, Daiichi Sankyo and Pfizer, grants, and honoraria from BMS.

Patrick Meybohm has received grants from B. Braun Melsungen, CSL Behring, Fresenius Kabi, and Vifor Pharma for the implementation of Frankfurt’s Patient Blood Management program and honoraria for scientific lectures from B. Braun Melsungen, Vifor Pharma, Feering, CSL Behring, and Pharmacosmos.

Andreas Greinacher has received lecture honoraria and advisory fees from Bayer AG, Boehringer Ingelheim, Bristol-Myers Squibb/Pfizer and Daiichi-Sankyo, ASPEN.

Eva Herrmann: none declared.
This study was supported by Bayer HealthCare (http://dx.doi.org/10.13039/50110000801), Daiichi Sankyo Company (http://dx.doi.org/10.13039/501100002336), CSL Behring, Bristol-Myers Squibb/Pfizer

Trial registration: ClinicalTrials.gov Identifier: NCT01722786, Reversal Agent use in patients treated with Direct Oral Anticoagulants or vitamin K antagonists Registry (RADOA-registry) https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT01722786?term=lindhoff-last&amp;rank=9, Prospective investigator-initiated multicenter cohort study

Abstract:
Background
Direct oral anticoagulants (DOAC) are increasingly used worldwide. Little is known so far about their pharmacokinetics in emergency situations.

Methods
A prospective, observational registry was performed to determine the clinical course in consecutive patients with major bleeding or urgent surgery treated with DOACs. In back-up blood samples from routine care DOAC drug concentrations were measured using UPLC-MS/MS. Anticoagulant intensity at first presentation and drug half-life ($t_{1/2}$), tested in repeat samples, were evaluated.

Results
140 patients were prospectively included. Pharmacokinetic data were available in 94% (132/140) of patients. 67% (89/132) experienced life-threatening bleeding and 33% (43/132) needed an urgent surgery. For pharmacokinetic analysis a total of 605 blood samples was available.
Median concentration on admission was 205 ng/mL for rivaroxaban and 108 ng/mL for apixaban. All treatment groups showed a high variation of drug concentrations at baseline. In rivaroxaban treated patients $t_{1/2}$ was 17.3 hours (95% CI: 15.4 - 19.7) without significant difference in both groups (major bleeding: $t_{1/2}$ 16.7 hours, 95% CI: 14.7 - 19.3; urgent surgery: $t_{1/2}$ 19.7 hours, 95% CI 15.2 - 27.9; p=0.292). In apixaban treated patients $t_{1/2}$ was 25.0 hours (95% CI: 22.9 - 27.6) with a longer $t_{1/2}$ after urgent surgery ($t_{1/2}$: 30.8 hours; 95% CI: 26.9 - 36.4) compared to severe bleeding ($t_{1/2}$: 20.8 hours; 95% CI: 18.8 - 23.2; p<0.001).

Conclusions
Emergency patients under DOAC treatment show a high variation of anticoagulant concentrations at baseline. Compared with rivaroxaban, apixaban showed a lower median concentration on admission and a longer $t_{1/2}$.

Corresponding Author:
Edelgard Lindhoff-Last, Cardioangiology Center Bethanien Hospital (CCB), CCB Coagulation Center and CCB Coagulation Research Center, Im Prüfling 23, 60389 Frankfurt, Germany, e.lindhoff-last@ccb.de

Affiliations:
Edelgard Lindhoff-Last, Cardioangiology Center Bethanien Hospital (CCB), CCB Coagulation Center and CCB Coagulation Research Center, Frankfurt, Germany
Ingvild Birschmann, HDZ NRW, ILTM, Bad Oeynhausen, Germany
Joachim Kuhn, HDZ NRW Ruhr-University Bochum, Institute for Laboratory and Transfusion Medicine, Bad Oeynhausen, Germany
Eva Herrmann, Johann-Wolfgang-Goethe-Universitätsklinik Frankfurt, Med. Klinik III, Frankfurt, Germany
Figure 1

Major bleeding

![Graph showing the relationship between time and major bleeding.](image)

Urgent surgery

![Graph showing the relationship between time and urgent surgery.](image)
1 Coagulation Centre at the Cardiology Angiology Centre Bethanien Hospital (CCB), Frankfurt, Germany
2 Coagulation Research Centre Bethanien Hospital, Frankfurt, Germany
3 Institute for Laboratory and Transfusion Medicine, Heart and Diabetes Centre, Ruhr University, Bochum, Germany
4 Department of Anaesthesiology, Intensive Care Medicine and Pain Therapy, University Hospital Frankfurt, Frankfurt, Germany
5 Center for Thrombosis and Haemostasis (CTH), Johannes Gutenberg University, Mainz, Germany
6 Department of Anaesthesiology, RWTH Aachen University Hospital, Aachen, Germany
7 Institute of Clinical Chemistry, Thrombosis & Haemostasis Treatment Centre, University Hospital, Kiel-Lübeck, Germany
8 Department of Anaesthesia, Intensive Care Medicine, Emergency Medicine and Pain Therapy, Vivantes Klinikum im Friedrichshain, Berlin, Germany
9 Department of Immunology and Transfusion Medicine, Universitätsmedizin, Greifswald, Germany
10 Thrombosis Research Unit, Department of Medicine 1; Division Haematology Dresden University Clinic, Dresden, Germany; Department of Haematology and Oncology, Kings College, London, UK
11 Medical Department 2, Municipal Hospital, Dresden, Germany
12 Department of Anaesthesiology, Intensive Care, Emergency and Pain Medicine, University Hospital Wuerzburg, Wuerzburg, Germany
13 Institute of Biostatistics and Mathematical Modelling, Goethe University, Frankfurt, Germany
Pharmacokinetics of Direct Oral Anticoagulants in Emergency Situations – Results of the Prospective Observational RADOA-registry
(Reversal Agent use in patients treated with Direct Oral Anticoagulants or vitamin K antagonists Registry)

Edelgard Lindhoff-Last,Ingvild Birschmann, Joachim Kuhn, Simone Lindau, Stavros Konstantinides, Oliver Grottke, Ulrike Nowak-Göttl, Jessica Lucks, Barbara Zydek, Christian von Heymann, Ariane Sümig, Jan Beyer-Westendorf, Sebastian Schellong, Patrick Meybohm, Andreas Greinacher, Eva Herrmann
On behalf of the RADOA-Registry Investigators (Reversal Agent use in patients treated with Direct Oral Anticoagulants or vitamin K antagonists Registry)

Abstract

Background Direct oral anticoagulants (DOAC) are increasingly used worldwide. Little is known so far about their pharmacokinetics in emergency situations.

Methods A prospective, observational registry was performed to determine the clinical course in consecutive patients with major bleeding or urgent surgery treated with DOACs. In back-up blood samples from routine care DOAC drug concentrations were measured using...
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**Results** 140 patients were prospectively included. Pharmacokinetic data were available in 94% (132/140) of patients. 67% (89/132) experienced life-threatening bleeding and 33% (43/132) needed an urgent surgery. For pharmacokinetic analysis a total of 605 blood samples was available. Median concentration on admission was 205 ng/mL for rivaroxaban and 108 ng/mL for apixaban. All treatment groups showed a high variation of drug concentrations at baseline. In rivaroxaban treated patients t$_{1/2}$ was 17.3 hours (95% CI: 15.4 – 19.7) without significant difference in both groups (major bleeding: t$_{1/2}$ 16.7 hours, 95% CI: 14.7 - 19.3; urgent surgery: t$_{1/2}$ 19.7 hours, 95% CI 15.2 - 27.9; p=0.292). In apixaban treated patients t$_{1/2}$ was 25.0 hours (95% CI: 22.9 – 27.6) with a longer t$_{1/2}$ after urgent surgery (t$_{1/2}$: 30.8 hours; 95% CI: 26.9 – 36.4) compared to severe bleeding (t$_{1/2}$: 20.8 hours; 95% CI: 18.8 – 23.2; p<0.001).

**Conclusions** Emergency patients under DOAC treatment show a high variation of anticoagulant concentrations at baseline. Compared with rivaroxaban, apixaban showed a lower median concentration on admission and a longer t$_{1/2}$.

**Keywords**
direct oral anticoagulants
pharmacokinetics
emergency
major bleeding
urgent surgery

**Introduction**
Patients with non-valvular atrial fibrillation or venous thromboembolism require therapeutic dose anticoagulation with either vitamin K antagonists (VKA) or direct oral anticoagulants (DOAC) \(^1\text{-}^5\). With the increase in the aging population worldwide, there has been an increase in the prevalence of atrial fibrillation and venous thromboembolism and DOACs have replaced VKA in international guidelines as first choice of anticoagulant for these indications \(^6\text{-}^7\). The risk of intracranial hemorrhage is lower with DOACs compared to VKA, but major bleedings still occur in 1% to 3% of patients per year \(^8\text{-}^9\). The management of these bleeding complications and of urgent surgery in frail elderly patients under DOAC has become an unmet need in clinical practice and further improvement of care is warranted \(^9\text{-}^10\). However, data on drug levels and pharmacokinetic of DOAC in these urgent situations are sparse.

Due to the short half-life of DOACs, the timing of the last DOAC dose and the residual DOAC concentration at the time when the emergency event occurs is important to decide about the use of reversal agents \(^11\text{-}^13\). Peak concentrations of DOACs are reached within 2–4 hours after oral intake. The half-lives of these drugs, depending on renal and hepatic function, are usually around 10–12 hours. Drug levels can be determined by anti-FXa assays, or the diluted thrombin time (in case of dabigatran), while for research purpose, LC-MS/MS is considered the gold standard method for the measurement of DOAC levels \(^14\).

We have initiated the RADOA-registry (Reversal Agent use in patients treated with Direct Oral Anticoagulants or vitamin K antagonists), to prospectively assess outcomes in consecutive patients treated with either DOAC or VKA and admitted with major bleeding or with an indication for urgent surgery as recently described \(^10\text{-}^15\). We now report on anticoagulant intensity at first presentation and drug half-life \((t_{1/2})\) in the DOAC-treated patients of the RADOA registry \(^10\).

Material and Methods
Study design and oversight

The RADOA-registry is a prospective, observational, non-interventional, open-label, investigator-initiated, multicenter clinical registry in Germany documenting the management of severe bleeding and/or urgent interventions in patients under treatment with VKA or DOAC. The rationale and design of the registry have been described previously. Patients were recruited until the predefined sample size was reached in each group. Patients were then followed prospectively until day 30 after hospital admission.

Participating centers were hospitals with 24-hour interdisciplinary teams to manage anticoagulant-related bleeding in specialized units (i.e., emergency departments and intensive care units). The study protocol was approved by all relevant institutional review boards. An external independent monitor performed 100% of the on-site source data verification.

This work was supported by Bayer, Bristol-Myers Squibb/Pfizer, DAIICHI Sankyo and CSL Behring. The pharmaceutical companies which funded this project had no role in the design of the study, the collection and analysis of the data or the preparation of the manuscript.

Patients

The inclusion criteria were

- Age ≥ 18 years
- Patients anticoagulated with DOACs or VKA with clinically overt major bleeding according to a modified definition according to the International Society of Thrombosis and Hemostasis for non-surgical patients that presented with at least one of the following criteria: Symptomatic bleeding in a critical area or organ, such as intracranial, intraspinal, intraocular, retroperitoneal, intraarticular or pericardial, or
intramuscular with compartment syndrome or acute life-threatening blood loss leading to hemodynamic instability and/or acute transfusion of two or more units of whole blood or red cells.

- Patients anticoagulated with DOACs or VKA needing an urgent surgical intervention within 24 hours after admission

The registry started including patients in 2014. The majority of patients was recruited between January 2016 and March 2018.

**Ethics**

Due to the emergency nature of the conditions under investigation, patient information and informed consent should not interfere with or delay acute treatment. With the approval of all ethics committees and institutional review boards, written informed consent was obtained from patients after the acute management phase. In the event of a patient’s inability to provide written informed consent, this was obtained from his/her legal representative. Data of patients who remained unconscious or died before a legal representative had been appointed were also included. This was explicitly approved by the ethical boards to prevent major bias caused by exclusion of the most severely affected patients. The study complies with the Declaration of Helsinki.

**Substudy of the RADOA-registry to analyze pharmacokinetics of DOAC**

In a subgroup of patients included in the RADOA-registry left-over from routine blood samples (“retention blood samples”) which were taken during the management of the acute events were collected to analyze drug concentrations and pharmacokinetics of DOAC during these emergency situations.

No additional blood sampling for pharmacokinetics was allowed due to the observational
character of the registry. Therefore, time points at which these samples were taken were not pre-specified and, thus, non-systematic. Residual citrated plasma samples as well as serum samples were immediately frozen and stored at the participating centers and later shipped on dry ice to the Institute for Laboratory and Transfusion Medicine, Heart and Diabetes Centre, Ruhr University Bochum, Bad Oeynhausen, Germany, where the UPLC-MS/MS analysis of DOAC concentrations was centrally performed.

**Sample preparation and UPLC-MS/MS analysis of DOACs**

Sample preparation and measurement of dabigatran, rivaroxaban, apixaban and edoxaban was performed as described before.

In brief, analysis by UPLC-MS/MS was done on a 2D UPLC system (Waters Acquity UPLC H-class with 2D Technology System, Waters GmbH, Eschborn, Germany) directly coupled to a Xevo TQ-S tandem mass spectrometer (Waters GmbH, Eschborn, Germany) which was operated in electrospray positive ionization mode. The system control and data acquisition were performed using MassLynx NT 4.1 software with automated data processing by the MassLynx QuanLynx program provided with the instrument. The lower limit of detection for all DOACs of the UPLC-MS/MS method was <0.2 ng/mL. Since DOAC values <9 ng/mL were not clinically relevant, all time points below this value were considered zero.

**Statistical analysis**

The statistical analysis focuses on descriptive statistics (median and range or frequencies where appropriate) and two-sided 95% confidence intervals.

Exponential decay of pharmacokinetics is assessed with linear mixed effect regression models to analyze $t_{1/2}$ together with 95% confidence intervals and to assess associations
between the exponential decay and baseline levels. All statistical tests are two-sided and use a significance level of alpha=5% without significance correction for multiple tests.

Results

140 patients treated with DOAC were prospectively included in the RADOA registry. Residual plasma samples and/or serum samples for measurements of DOAC concentrations were available in 132 patients (94%) which were further analyzed. The following results only refer to this subgroup of patients.

Patient characteristics

47% (62/132) of patients were treated with Apixaban, 42% (55/132) with Rivaroxaban, 6% (8/132) with Dabigatran and 5% (7/132) with Edoxaban. One further patient received DOAC treatment (Apixaban) as well as VKA treatment (Phenprocoumon) because of a medication error and was excluded from the analysis.

Of the evaluable 132 patients, 89 (67%) experienced a life-threatening bleeding event and 43 patients (33%) needed urgent surgery (not driven by severe bleeding) within 24 hours after admission.

Baseline characteristics of patients are given in Table 1. Patients were on average 79 years old. In patients suffering from life-threatening bleeding 43% (38/89) presented with intracranial or intraspinal hemorrhage and 35% (31/89) had gastrointestinal bleeding. In patients with urgent surgery, 54% (23/43) had a trauma, mainly fractures and 28% (12/43) needed the intervention because of an acute abdomen. Overall, 9% (12/132) of patients died during the first 30 days after hospital admission.
For pharmacokinetic analysis a total of 605 blood samples was available.

Rivaroxaban Pharmacokinetics (pk)

In 52 patients treated with rivaroxaban 266 concentration measurements were performed. Baseline samples (defined as blood sample taken within 3 hours after presentation) were not available in 13 patients. In the remaining patients rivaroxaban levels showed a high variation from undetectable levels below 9 ng/mL to 803 ng/mL.

A total of 206 rivaroxaban blood samples were available for pk-analyses. This analysis included all samples taken during the first 3.5 days after admission (see figure 1) but excluded patients who were re-exposed to rivaroxaban (n=3).

Fitting revealed a mean decay rate of 0.96 per day corresponding to a half-life time of 17.3 hours (95% CI: 15.4 – 19.7). There was no significant difference in the decay rate or the baseline levels between patients with severe bleedings and patients requiring urgent surgery (major bleeding: \( t_{1/2} \) 16.7 hours; 95% CI: 14.7 - 19.3; urgent surgery: \( t_{1/2} \) 19.7 hours; 95% CI 15.2 - 27.9, \( p=0.292 \); see figure 1).

Results of the rivaroxaban levels, creatinine levels, Cockcroft-Gault formula and coagulation assays during the time course of the registry are shown in table 2.

At baseline the median rivaroxaban level was 205 ng/mL, 59% (23/37) of patients had rivaroxaban levels > 200 ng/L and 19% (7/37) presented with rivaroxaban concentrations ≤ 75 ng/mL.

Apixaban Pharmacokinetics (pk)

In 61 patients treated with apixaban 267 concentration measurements were performed.

Baseline samples (defined as blood sample taken within 3 hours after presentation) were not
available in 15 patients. In the remaining patients apixaban concentrations showed a high variation from undetectable levels below 9 ng/mL to 1222 ng/mL.

A total of 221 apixaban blood samples were available for pk analyses. This analysis included all samples taken during the first 3.5 days after admission (see figure 2) but excluded patients who were re-exposed to apixaban (n=6).

Fitting revealed a mean decay rate of 0.66 per day corresponding to a half-life time of 25 hours (95% CI: 22.9 – 27.6). There was a significant difference in the decay rate in patients with severe bleedings ($t_{1/2}$: 20.8 hours; 95% CI: 18.8 – 23.2) compared to patients with urgent surgery ($t_{1/2}$: 30.8 hours, 95% CI: 26.9 – 36.4; p<0.001; see figure 2).

Results of the apixaban levels, creatinine levels, Cockcroft-Gault formula and coagulation assays during the time course of the registry are shown in table 3. On admission the median apixaban level was 108 ng/mL, 20% (9/46) of patients had apixaban levels > 200 ng/mL and 28% (13/46) presented with apixaban concentrations < 75 ng/mL.

**Dabigatran and Edoxaban Pharmacokinetics**

In 8 patients treated with Dabigatran 48 concentration measurements were performed. In 7 patients treated with Edoxaban 24 blood samples for concentration measurements were available. Due to the small sample size statistical analysis of $t_{1/2}$ was not performed. Results are shown in Appendix B, Figure S1 and Figure S2.

**Discussion**

**Baseline anticoagulant concentrations on admission**
In our registry, baseline DOAC-concentrations on admission varied widely and ranged from 0 to more than 1000 ng/mL, which is in agreement with findings from an observational prospective cohort study in which baseline plasma DOAC-concentrations were measured in 62% of 732 DOAC-treated patients with severe bleeding. In our study baseline median concentrations of rivaroxaban were higher compared to apixaban concentrations due to the once daily intake of a high dose of rivaroxaban compared to apixaban which is applied at lower dosages twice daily. Median baseline PT and aPTT were only slightly prolonged in the DOAC-treated patients. These routine coagulation assays are not sensitive enough to detect clinically relevant residual DOAC-concentrations on admission.

**Pharmacokinetics of DOACs in emergency situations**

To best of our knowledge this sub-study of the RADOA-registry is the first to systematically analyze pks and half-life times of in emergency situations under DOAC therapy. The observed $t_{1/2}$ of rivaroxaban (17.3 hours) and apixaban (25 hours) in this elderly patient population clearly exceeds the reported $t_{1/2}$ of these DOACs in clinical routine (apixaban: 12h, rivaroxaban: 11h - 13h) and are in agreement with data of Viktil et al. In this study evaluating 8 patients with acute hip fractures treated with DOACs, the average elimination half-live was prolonged to 21.6 hours. Reasons for these significantly prolonged half-lives could be altered pks due to the fragile old patient population and the emergency situation itself. As observed in patients with bleeding events in phase III trials, the median age of patients in our registry was 79 years. At baseline the median Cockroft-Gault-formula was lower in apixaban treated patients (50 mL/min) compared to rivaroxaban treated patients (66 mL/min), which might explain the longer $t_{1/2}$ of apixaban in our patient population.
Apixaban is cleared via a variety of pathways, including metabolism, biliary excretion, and direct intestinal excretion, with approximately 27% of total apixaban clearance occurring via renal excretion. Rivaroxaban is eliminated either renally (66% in total; 36% unchanged mainly through active renal secretion) or hepatobiliary. Both drugs have a high degree of plasma protein binding of around 87% for apixaban and 95% for rivaroxaban. The volume of distribution is 21 l for apixaban and 50 l for rivaroxaban. Redistribution from extravascular compartments may therefore be an additional reason for the prolonged DOAC half-lives in our patient-population.

Limitations
We acknowledge that the RADOA registry has a nonrandomized observational design. To obtain the highest possible data quality and to minimize any bias, however, patients were included prospectively and consecutively, and all enrolled patients were on-site monitored by an independent external monitor. Since we analyzed all residual blood samples available and were allowed to include patients who were unable to provide informed consent, there is minimal selection bias.

Conclusions
In conclusion, this subgroup analysis of the RADOA registry shows that baseline concentrations of DOACs differ widely in patients admitted to hospital because of major bleeding or urgent surgery. Quantitative DOAC point of care testing on admission would improve the management of this patient group because only 70 – 80% of these patients might need specific antidotes on admission due to increased DOAC-concentrations. Without rapid DOAC-measurements many patients will either receive reversal agents unnecessarily which
might increase thrombotic complications in this fragile patient population or may proceed to urgent treatments with high DOAC plasma levels and prolonged anticoagulant activity resulting in prolonged blood loss.

Taken together these observations suggest the urgent need for more research with a focus on rapid DOAC concentration measurements in these life-threatening situations. Further prospective multicenter studies are necessary to investigate the concentrations of DOACs in the perioperative urgent setting and in major bleeding in higher numbers of patients to be able to correlate these drug concentrations to clinical outcomes and to improve patient care.

What is known on this topic

DOACs have replaced VKA in international guidelines as first choice of anticoagulant for non-valvular atrial fibrillation and venous thromboembolism.

The management of bleeding complications and of urgent surgery in patients under DOAC is a challenge.

So far data on drug levels and pharmacokinetics of DOAC in these urgent situations are sparse.

What does this paper add?

Baseline concentrations of DOACs differ widely in patients admitted to hospital because of major bleeding or urgent surgery.

Compared with rivaroxaban, apixaban showed a lower median concentration on admission and a longer t½.

Author contributions
Edelgard Lindhoff-Last was responsible for the conceptualization and the methodology of the RADOA-registry, organized funding acquisition, and wrote the original draft preparation; Ingvild Birschmann performed the masspectrometry analysis of the DOAC-levels and reviewed major parts of the manuscript, Joachim Kuhn performed the masspectrometry analysis of the DOAC-levels, Simone Lindau, Stavros Konstantinides, Oliver Grottke, Ulrike Nowak-Goettl, Barbara Zydek, Christian von Heymann, Ingvild Birschmann, Ariane Sünnig, Jan Beyer-Westendorf, Sebastian Schellong, Patrick Meybohm and Andreas Greinacher recruited patients and supported the writing of the manuscript; Jessica Lucks and Barbara Zydek were responsible for the project administration; Eva Herrmann performed the statistical analysis and was responsible for the validation and visualization of the results. All the authors have read and agreed to the published version of the manuscript.

Funding
This work was funded by Bayer, Bristol-Myers Squibb/Pfizer, DAIICHI Sankyo and CSL Behring.

Statement of equal authors’ contribution
EL and IB contributed equally to this work

Clinical Trial Registration
ClinicalTrials.gov Identifier: NCT01722786
URL: https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT01722786?term=lindhoff-last&rank=9

Institutional Review Board Statements
The study was conducted according to the guidelines of the Declaration of Helsinki, and approved by the Institutional Review Boards of all participating hospitals.

Informed Consent Statements see Ethics as part of the Material and Methods Section of the Manuscript.

Conflicts of Interest

Edelgard Lindhoff-Last has received lecture honoraria and advisory fees from Bayer AG, Boehringer Ingelheim, Bristol-Myers Squibb/Pfizer, Daiichi-Sankyo, Portola, CSL Behring and Aspen and institutional research support from Bayer AG, Bristol-Myers Squibb/Pfizer, Daiichi-Sankyo and CSL-Behring.

Ingvild Birschmann has received speaker’s honoraria from Bristol-Myers Squibb/Pfizer, Siemens Healthcare, LFB biomedicaments and CSL Behring and reimbursement for congress travelling and accommodation from Aspen and Bristol-Myers Squibb. She has performed contract research for Siemens Healthcare and is a member of the advisory board of LFB biomedicaments and of the expert groups of CSL Behring GmbH and Siemens Healthcare Diagnostics Products GmbH.

Joachim Kuhn: none declared.

Simone Lindau: none declared.

Stavros Konstantinides has received lecture honoraria and advisory fees from Bayer AG, Boehringer Ingelheim, MSD, Actelion, and Daiichi-Sankyo; and institutional research support from Bayer AG, Boehringer Ingelheim, MSD, Actelion, and Daiichi-Sankyo.

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Ulrike Nowak-Goettl has received lecture honoraria and advisory fees from Bayer AG, Boehringer Ingelheim, Bristol-Myers Squibb/Pfizer, Octapharma and LFB.

Jessica Lucks: none declared.

Barbara Zydek: none declared.

Christian von Heymann has received honoraria for lectures and consultancy work potentially related to this topic, as well as travel reimbursements from Bayer GmbH, Biotest GmbH, Pfizer GmbH, Daiichi Sankyo, CSL Behring, NovoNordisk GmbH, and HICC GbR.

Ariane Sünnig: none declared.

Jan Beyer-Westendorf has received personal honoraria (lectures, advisory boards) and travel support from Bayer, Daiichi Sankyo, Janssen, Portola and institutional research support from Bayer, Daiichi Sankyo, Janssen, LEO, Pfizer, and Portola.

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Patrick Meybohm has received grants from B. Braun Melsungen, CSL Behring, Fresenius Kabi, and Vifor Pharma for the implementation of Frankfurt’s Patient Blood Management program and honoraria for scientific lectures from B. Braun Melsungen, Vifor Pharma, Fearing, CSL Behring, and Pharmacosmos.

Andreas Greinacher has received lecture honoraria and advisory fees from Bayer AG, Boehringer Ingelheim, Bristol-Myers Squibb/Pfizer and Daiichi-Sankyo, ASPEN.

Eva Herrmann: none declared

The funders had no role in the design of the registry; in the collection, analyses, or interpretation of data; in the writing of the manuscript, or in the decision to publish the results.
Acknowledgements

We acknowledge Sina Hehn, M.D., Department of Medicine II / University Cancer Center Frankfurt, University Hospital Frankfurt, Germany, who provided support in the development of the online Case Report Form of the Registry;

Sebastian Harder, Department of Clinical Pharmacology, University Hospital Frankfurt, Germany, who gave advice on ethical issues;

Hartmut Clausnizer, MD, Institute of Clinical Chemistry, Thrombosis & Haemostasis Treatment Center, University Hospital, Kiel-Lübeck, Germany, and Norbert Weiler, MD, Department of Anesthesiology & Intensive Care, University Hospital Schleswig Holstein, Campus Kiel, Germany, who recruited patients.

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doi:10.1007/s40266-018-0609-4


**Figure 1:** Results of rivaroxaban concentrations within the first 3.5 days after admission in patients without early re-exposure to rivaroxaban.

Major bleeding: n=36, 161 rivaroxaban concentration measurements

Urgent surgery (OP): n=13, 45 rivaroxaban concentration measurements

**Figure 2:** Results of apixaban concentrations within the first 3.5 days after admission in patients without early re-exposure to apixaban.

Major bleeding: n=38, 113 apixaban concentration measurements

Urgent surgery (OP): n=22, 108 apixaban concentration measurements
Table 1: Baseline characteristics and mortality in patients by treatment and event.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable</th>
<th>Total (n=132)</th>
<th>Major Bleeding (n=89)</th>
<th>Urgent Surgery (n=43)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male sex n (%)</td>
<td>67 (51%)</td>
<td>47 (53%)</td>
<td>20 (47%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age median (1&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt; to 3&lt;sup&gt;rd&lt;/sup&gt; quartile)</td>
<td>79 (72-84)</td>
<td>80 (74-84)</td>
<td>77 (69-83)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BMI (kg/m&lt;sup&gt;2&lt;/sup&gt;) median (1&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt; to 3&lt;sup&gt;rd&lt;/sup&gt; quartile)</td>
<td>26.4 (23.8-30.1)</td>
<td>26.4 (23-30)</td>
<td>26.6 (24-30)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Type of bleeding**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Major Bleeding</th>
<th>Urgent Surgery</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Intracranial/intraspinal n (%)</td>
<td>38 (28.8%)</td>
<td>38 (43%)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GI-bleeding n (%)</td>
<td>31 (23.5%)</td>
<td>31 (35%)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other locations n (%)</td>
<td>19 (14.4%)</td>
<td>19 (21%)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Type of Surgery**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Major Bleeding</th>
<th>Urgent Surgery</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Trauma n (%)</td>
<td>23 (17.4%)</td>
<td>23 (54%)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acute abdomen n (%)</td>
<td>12 (9.1%)</td>
<td>12 (28%)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other surgery n (%)</td>
<td>12 (9.1%)</td>
<td>8 (19%)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Primary Endpoint:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Major Bleeding</th>
<th>Urgent Surgery</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>30-day in hospital mortality n (%)</td>
<td>12 (9%)</td>
<td>7 (7%)</td>
<td>5 (12%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Multiple types of bleeding location and surgery are possible.
Table 2: Rivaroxaban levels and laboratory results (number and rates, median and 1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> quartile) in 47 patients without reexposure to rivaroxaban within the first week after admission.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rivaroxaban-treated patients (n=47)</th>
<th>baseline</th>
<th>after 24 hours</th>
<th>after 2-3 days</th>
<th>after 4-6 days</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rivaroxaban level ≤ 9 ng/mL&lt;sup&gt;1&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>2/37 (5%)</td>
<td>0/29 (0%)</td>
<td>47/79 (59%)</td>
<td>31/40 (78%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rivaroxaban level &gt;9 ng/mL and ≤ 30 ng/mL</td>
<td>0/37 (0%)</td>
<td>16/29 (55%)</td>
<td>20/79 (25%)</td>
<td>5/40 (13%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rivaroxaban level &gt;30 ng/mL and ≤ 75 ng/mL</td>
<td>5/37 (14%)</td>
<td>8/29 (28%)</td>
<td>8/79 (10%)</td>
<td>2/40 (5%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rivaroxaban level &gt; 75 ng/mL and ≤ 200 ng/mL</td>
<td>9/37 (23%)</td>
<td>5/29 (17%)</td>
<td>4/79 (5%)</td>
<td>2/40 (5%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rivaroxaban level &gt; 200 ng/mL</td>
<td>23/37 (59%)</td>
<td>0/29 (0%)</td>
<td>0/79 (0%)</td>
<td>0/40 (0%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rivaroxaban level (ng/ml)</td>
<td>205 (102-365)</td>
<td>23 (16-51)</td>
<td>≤9 (≤9-13)</td>
<td>≤9 (≤9-≤9)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>creatinine (mg/dl)</td>
<td>0.9 (0.7-1.3)</td>
<td>1.0 (0.8-1.6)</td>
<td>0.9 (0.7-1.4)</td>
<td>0.8 (0.6-1.2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cockcroft-Gault formula (mL/min)</td>
<td>66 (41-98)</td>
<td>65 (44-101)</td>
<td>75 (49-133)</td>
<td>63 (51-127)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INR</td>
<td>1.4 (1.3-2.0)</td>
<td>1.2 (1.1-1.5)</td>
<td>1.1 (1.1-1.2)</td>
<td>1.1 (1.1-1.2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>aPTT (sec)</td>
<td>32 (28-36)</td>
<td>31 (28-34)</td>
<td>31 (28-35)</td>
<td>32 (28-42)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<sup>1</sup>Relative to all measurements. In some patients, multiple quantifications were available in the time period analyzed.
Table 3. Apixaban levels and laboratory results (number and rates, median and 1st to 3rd quartile) in 56 patients without reexposure to apixaban within the first week after admission.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Apixaban-treated patients (n=56)</th>
<th>baseline</th>
<th>after 24 hours</th>
<th>after 2-3 days</th>
<th>after 4-6 days</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Apixaban level ≤ 9 ng/mL¹</td>
<td>3/46 (7%)</td>
<td>1/23 (4 %)</td>
<td>18/75 (15.0 %)</td>
<td>24/40 (60 %)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apixaban level &gt;9 ng/mL and ≤ 30 ng/mL</td>
<td>3/46 (7%)</td>
<td>10/23 (43%)</td>
<td>38/75 (25%)</td>
<td>10/40 (25%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apixaban level &gt;30 ng/mL and ≤ 75 ng/mL</td>
<td>7/46 (15%)</td>
<td>9/23 (39%)</td>
<td>11/75 (10%)</td>
<td>6/40 (15%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apixaban level &gt; 75 ng/mL and ≤ 200 ng/mL</td>
<td>24/46 (52%)</td>
<td>3/23 (13%)</td>
<td>7/75 (9%)</td>
<td>0/40 (0%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apixaban level &gt; 200 ng/mL</td>
<td>9/46 (20%)</td>
<td>0/23 (0%)</td>
<td>1/75 (1%)</td>
<td>0/40 (0%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apixaban level (ng/mL)</td>
<td>108 (67-181)</td>
<td>32 (21-58)</td>
<td>17 (10-30)</td>
<td>≤9 (≤9-15)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>creatinine (mg/dl)</td>
<td>1.1 (0.8-1.5)</td>
<td>1.0 (0.8-1.5)</td>
<td>1.0 (0.7-1.6)</td>
<td>0.9 (0.7-1.7)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cockcroft-Gault formula (mL/min)</td>
<td>50 (32-79)</td>
<td>60 (40-91)</td>
<td>57 (32-85)</td>
<td>54 (32-76)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INR</td>
<td>1.3 (1.1-1.4)</td>
<td>1.2 (1.1-1.5)</td>
<td>1.2 (1.1-1.4)</td>
<td>1.1 (1.0-1.2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>aPTT (sec)</td>
<td>29 (26-34)</td>
<td>30 (27-34)</td>
<td>31 (28-36)</td>
<td>30 (27-40)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

¹relative to all measurements. In some patients, multiple quantifications were available in the time period analyzed.
Supplement

Figure S1: Results of Edoxaban concentrations within the first 3.5 days after admission in patients with major bleeding (n=5) or urgent surgery (n=2).

Figure S2: Results of Dabigatran concentrations within the first 3.5 days after admission in patients with major bleeding (n=4) or urgent surgery (n=4)