CLINICAL PRACTICE GUIDELINES

Objective

To learn to how to critically appraise a paper on clinical practice guidelines and incorporate them into your practice

Assignment

1. Read the clinical scenario given below and formulate your clinical decision
2. Read the article
3. Determine whether you can apply the results of the paper in your practice

Clinical Scenario

You are an oral surgeon and dentist working in the remote Northwest Territories taking care of a 65 year old patient with significant medical comorbidities. The patient is scheduled to undergo semi-elective extraction of two molars that have been causing the patient pain for over two weeks. The patient’s past medical history is most notable for atrial fibrillation with a single transient ischemic attack (TIA) approximately 12 months ago prior to initiation of anticoagulation. The patient is now on Coumadin with an INR in the range of 2.0 – 3.0. He has no history of deep venous thrombosis or pulmonary embolism.

The patient is scheduled to come to your office later today to discuss the risk and complications of the scheduled procedure as well as to address the perioperative management of his anticoagulation. Unfortunately, you can reach neither the patient’s primary care physician nor his cardiologist to help you manage his anticoagulation. You therefore turn to the medical literature to find a relevant clinical practice guideline document that addresses this issue.

Relevant Materials:


