



Pharmacology Substudy

Participant Information Sheet and Consent Form

Chief Investigator: Prof Roland Veltkamp

WE INVITE YOU TO TAKE PART IN A RESEARCH STUDY

We are conducting a research study on the best stroke prevention for patients with atrial fibrillation (AF) who have recently had a bleeding in their brain, also called an “intracerebral haemorrhage” (ICH).

Within the PRESTIGE-AF trial, you have been randomised to take a direct oral anticoagulant (DOAC). In this substudy, we will assess whether you take your DOAC regularly and whether the amount of medication within your blood, is at the level we would expect it to be.

- Before you decide whether to take part, it is important for you to understand why the research is being done and what it will involve.
- Please take time to read the following information carefully. Discuss it with friends and relatives if you wish.
- You are free to decide whether to take part in this trial. If you choose not to take part, this will not affect the care you get from your doctors. It will not impact your participation in PRESTIGE-AF if you decide not to take part in the substudy and you can withdraw at any time without any consequences for you.
- Ask us if there is anything that is not clear or if you would like more information.

BACKGROUND

In general, the requirement for a successful medication treatment is that the medicine is taken as prescribed and that the appropriate amount of medication reaches the patient.

However, it is sometimes difficult to adhere to a medication treatment plan. Moreover, other factors can influence the amount of medication that is absorbed into your body, including other medicines that you are taking, and other conditions that you may have. These complications can change your exposure to the medication and affect both the safety of the treatment and how effective it is.

We aim to find out if these issues are relevant to patients like you who are taking a DOAC. We equally plan to evaluate if patients succeed in regularly taking their DOAC and if their individual medication exposure is what we would expect it to be.

WHAT IS INVOLVED?

As you are a participant in the PRESTIGE-AF Study and you are one of the 327 patients receiving a DOAC, we are asking for you to decide whether you are willing to also take part in this substudy. DOAC medication exposure can be calculated by analysing the drug level in your blood at different time points before and after you take your DOAC within a dosing interval. To collect blood easily, we will use the dried blood spot (DBS) technique. This technique is advantageous because it only needs less than 4 drops of blood for an accurate analysis. DBS is sampled by dripping blood on a special card. These cards will then be posted to the study laboratory for analysis.

The substudy is split into two parts, you can decide to take part in one or both parts of the study.

PART 1

In part 1, your blood will be collected during your scheduled visits to the study centre. A blood spot is taken from the needle when your safety blood sample is collected so no additional blood draw is required. There are no additional procedures for you if you chose to participate in part 1 of the substudy but we will be able to do more research.

PART 2

To calculate your individual DOAC exposure, you can choose to take part in a more detailed version of this study (part 2). You (or your caregiver) will be asked to collect additional blood drops on a DBS paper after each scheduled visit, i.e. at home. These will be taken from the tiny blood vessels (capillaries) in your fingertip. A trained healthcare practitioner will teach you (or your caregiver) how to perform and document this capillary blood sampling on your own (see Figure 1). A short video will be shown to you, and you will be shown how to access this to watch it again at home if you wish (www.prestige-af.org). The first of four blood samples will be collected at the centre under the supervision of your practitioner. Afterwards, you will collect three additional blood spots at home. The second spot should be generated the following morning, directly before you take your next DOAC. A third spot should be taken two hours after your DOAC intake and a fourth one eight hours after (see Figure 2). Then you need to let the DBS card dry before posting it back to us in the provided postage-paid envelope.

You will also be asked to answer a few questions concerning other medicines you might be taking as well as possible handling difficulties and to monitor your adherence on a visual scale.

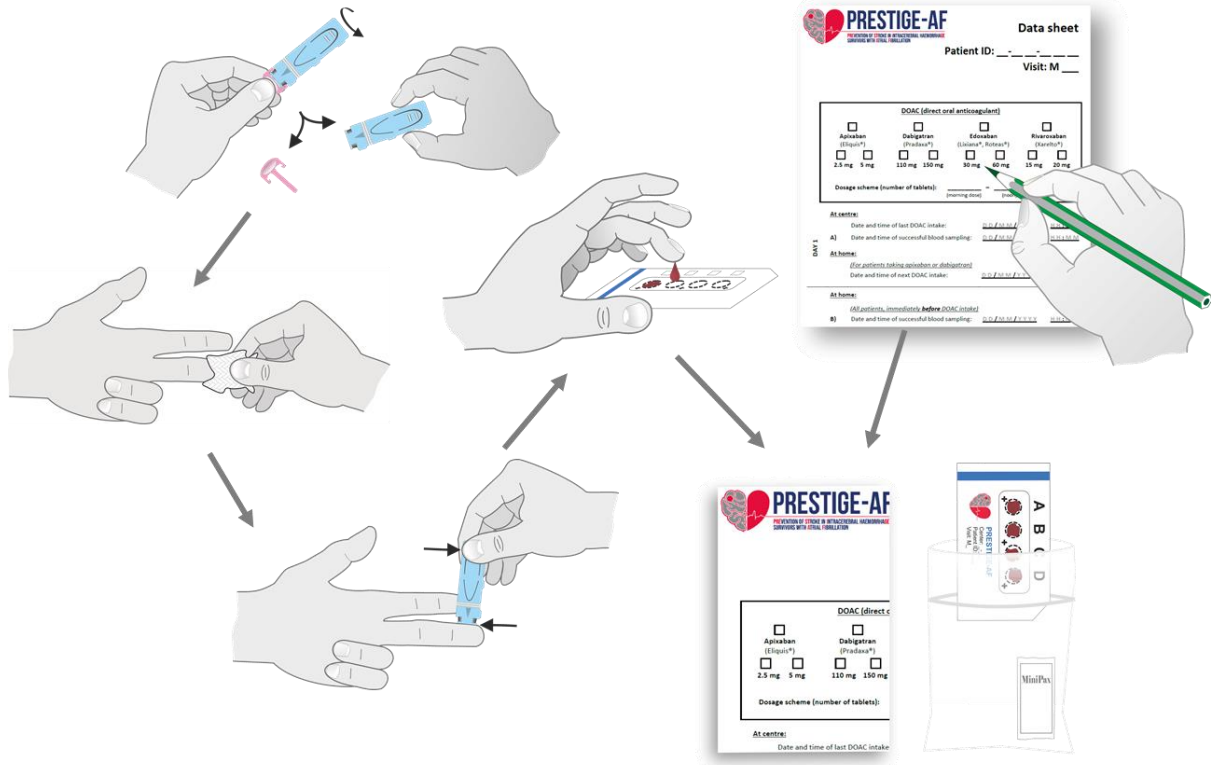


Figure 1 Capillary blood sampling to create and mail a DBS

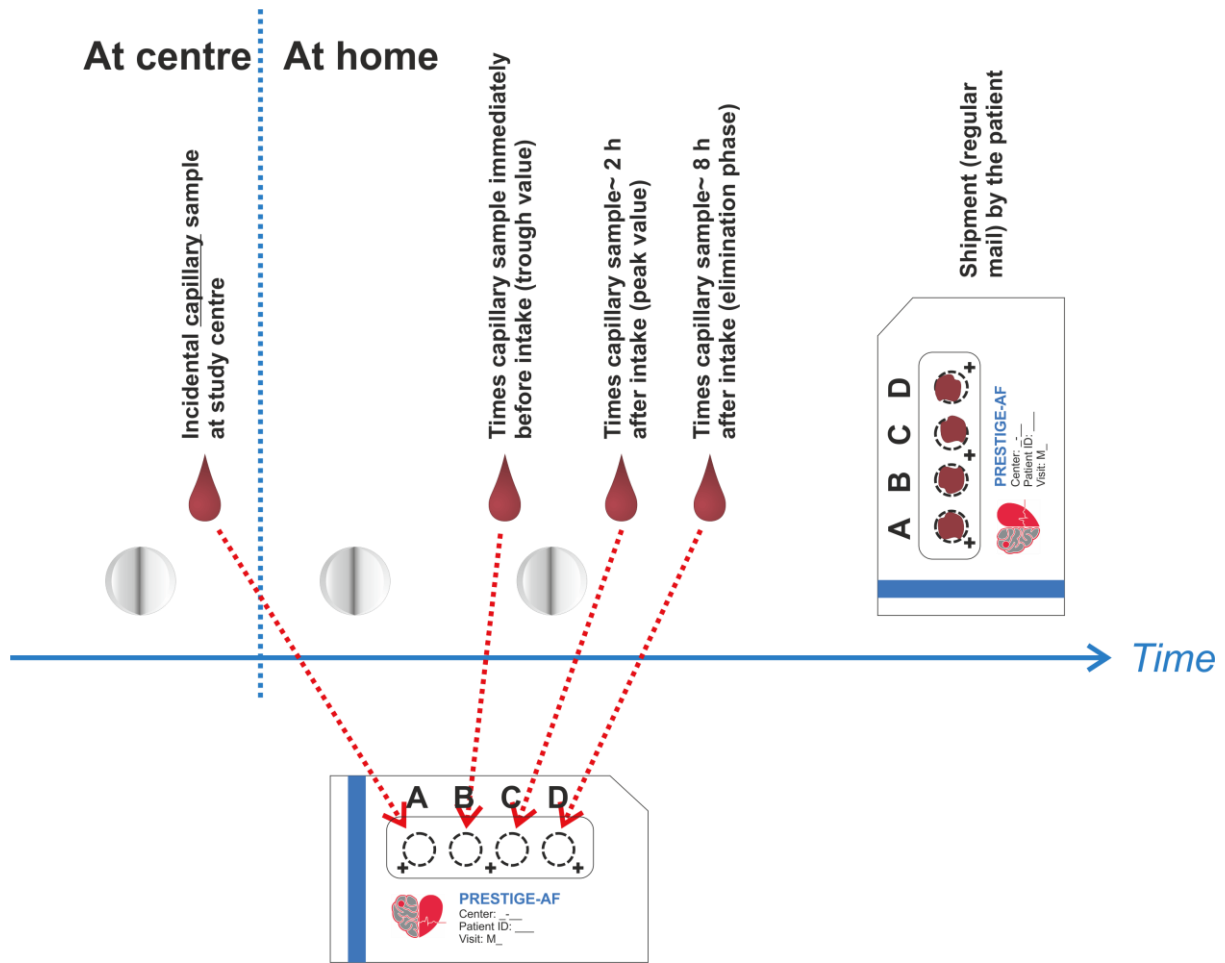


Figure 2 Time course of capillary blood sampling

POTENTIAL BENEFIT OF THIS SUBSTUDY

Participating in this substudy does not provide direct benefit for you. However, your data will help to reveal the potential pitfalls of a DOAC treatment. We will be able to see whether patients, in general, succeed in taking a DOAC and whether DOAC medication levels in the blood are as expected. The laboratory results will be used for scientific analysis and will not be transmitted to you, because the medication levels in your blood only have meaning in comparison with other patients' data and these are confidential and only available at the end of the study.

POTENTIAL RISK OF THIS SUBSTUDY

Having a blood sample taken is a low risk procedure and the the risks of sampling DBS are considered minimal. In the first part of this substudy there is no additional sample taken as the blood will be taken from the remaining blood left in the tubing after your blood sample, therefore there is no additional risk to you.

In the second part, repetitive capillary blood sampling will be performed by you or your caregiver at home. In theory, local infections at the puncture site are possible but because single-use lancets (the instrument used to pinprick the finger) will be used and disinfectant swabs will be provided, the risk should be small. To minimise any risk, you will be trained in performing the procedure at each visit. The puncture site may slightly hurt, but the pain will ease after a few hours.

PARTICIPANT TIMELINE

The timeline is the same as the timeline of the main PRESTIGE-AF Study and substudy procedures will take place at your normal follow-up visits. If you participate in part 2 of the substudy, blood sampling for DBS will also include the day after your visits.

WHAT IF SOMETHING GOES WRONG?

Imperial College London holds insurance policies which apply to this study. If you experience harm or injury as a result of taking part in this study, you will be eligible to claim compensation without having to prove that Imperial College is at fault. This does not affect your legal rights to seek compensation.

If you are harmed due to someone's negligence, then you may have grounds for a legal action. Regardless of this, if you wish to complain, or have any concerns about any aspect of the way you have been treated during the course of this study then you should immediately inform the Investigator (prestige-af@imperial.ac.uk). The normal National Health Service mechanisms are also available to you. If you

are still not satisfied with the response, you may contact the Imperial College, Research Governance and Integrity Team.

HOW WILL WE USE INFORMATION ABOUT YOU

Imperial College London is the sponsor for this study and will act as the data controller for this study. This means that we are responsible for looking after your information and using it properly. Imperial College London will keep your personal data for:

- 15 years after the study has finished in relation to data subject consent forms
- 15 years after the study has completed in relation to primary research data.

We will need to use information from you, your medical records, your GP or other healthcare providers for this research project.

This information will include:

- Your name
- Your contact details
- Your NHS Number
- Health information

People will use this information to do the research or to check your records to make sure that the research is being done properly.

People who do not need to know who you are will not be able to see your name or contact details. Your data will have a code number instead.

We will keep all information about you safe and secure.

Some of your information will be sent to countries in the European Union. They must follow our rules about keeping your information safe.

Once we have finished the study, we will keep some of the data so we can check the results. We will write our reports in a way that no-one can work out that you took part in the study.

LEGAL BASIS

As a university we use personally-identifiable information to conduct research to improve health, care and services. As a publicly-funded organisation, we have to ensure that it is in the public interest when we use personally-identifiable information from people who have agreed to take part in research. This means that when you agree to take part in a research study, we will use your data in the ways needed to conduct and analyse the research study.

Health and care research should serve the public interest, which means that we have to demonstrate that our research serves the interests of society as a whole. We do this by following the UK Policy Framework for Health and Social Care Research.

INTERNATIONAL TRANSFERS

There may be a requirement to transfer information to countries outside the European Economic Area (for example, to a research partner). Where this information contains your personal data, Imperial College London will ensure that it is transferred in accordance with data protection legislation. If the data is transferred to a country which is not subject to a European Commission (EC) adequacy decision in respect of its data protection standards, Imperial College London will enter into a data sharing agreement with the recipient organisation that incorporates EC approved standard contractual clauses that safeguard how your personal data is processed.

SHARING YOUR INFORMATION WITH OTHERS

For the purposes referred to in this privacy notice and relying on the bases for processing as set out above, we will share your personal data with certain third parties.

- Other College employees, agents, contractors and service providers (for example, suppliers of printing and mailing services, email communication services or web services, or suppliers who help us carry out any of the activities described above). Our third party service providers are required to enter into data processing agreements with us. We only permit them to process your personal data for specified purposes and in accordance with our policies.

- This clinical trial is part of a large European Union funded project. We are working with the following research collaborators across Europe who are all specialists in different fields. In order to answer the questions of our research we are all working together and therefore your data will be shared with:

- University Hospital Würzburg, Germany
- Julius-Maximilians Universitaet Würzburg, Germany
- Medizinische Universitaet Graz, Austria
- Kings College London, UK
- Fundacio Hospital Universitari Vall d'Hebron- Institut de Recerca, Spain
- Universite de Bordeaux, France
- Azienda Ospedaliera di Perugia, Italy
- Region Nordjylland (North Denmark Region) , Denmark
- Stroke Alliance for Europe, Belgium
- Heidelberg University Hospital, Germany
- University of Liverpool, UK

If you would like to find out more about the PRESTIGE-AF Project and what each partner does there is more information on our website www.prestige-af.org

WHAT ARE YOUR CHOICES ABOUT HOW YOUR INFORMATION IS USED

You can stop being part of the study at any time, without giving a reason, but we will keep information about you that we already have.

- We need to manage your records in specific ways for the research to be reliable. This means that we won't be able to let you see or change the data we hold about you.
- If you agree to take part in this study, you will have the option to take part in future research using your data saved from this study.

WHERE CAN YOU FIND OUT MORE ABOUT HOW YOUR INFORMATION IS USED

You can find out more about how we use your information

- at www.hra.nhs.uk/information-about-patients/
- by asking one of the research team
- by sending an email to hello@prestige-af.org
- www.prestige-af.org/privacy-cookie-policy/

COMPLAINTS

If you wish to raise a complaint on how we have handled your personal data, please contact Imperial College London's Data Protection Officer via:

- email at dpo@imperial.ac.uk
- telephone on 020 7594 3502 and/or
- via post at Imperial College London, Data Protection Officer, Faculty Building Level 4, London SW7 2AZ.

If you are not satisfied with our response or believe we are processing your personal data in a way that is not lawful you can complain to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO). The ICO does recommend that you seek to resolve matters with the data controller (us) first before involving the regulator.

FUNDER

A group of international researchers formed the PRESTIGE AF consortium, which applied for research funding. This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No. 754517.

ETHICAL REVIEW

This research was designed and reviewed by a consortium of experts within the field. There are several monitoring boards in place that will continue to review the trial throughout, to ensure the safety of participants.

This research has been reviewed and approved by the London Surrey Borders Research Ethics Committee and the Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency. The Health Research Authority has approved this research to be conducted within the UK National Health Service.

FURTHER INFORMATION

It is important that you have enough information to decide whether to take part. If you have any questions, please contact the study team: prestige-af@imperial.ac.uk

Thank you for taking the time to read this information.

CONSENT FORM

Principal Investigator:

Participant ID:

Please
initial
box

I confirm that I have read this information sheet and I have had the opportunity to consider the information, ask questions and have had these answered satisfactorily.

I understand that my participation is voluntary and that I am free to withdraw at any time without giving any reason, without my medical care or legal rights being affected.

I understand that relevant sections of my medical notes and data collected during the study, may be looked at by responsible individuals from the NHS Trust or from regulatory authorities where it is relevant to my taking part in this research.

I give permission for these individuals to access my records that are relevant to this research.

I **give / do not give** (delete as applicable) consent for remaining blood samples and information collected about

me to be used to support other research in the future,
including those outside of the EEA.

I understand that the information held and maintained by
(insert NHS Trust) and other UK NHS bodies may be used to
help contact me or provide information about my health
status.

I consent to take part the *whole substudy / part 1 only /
part 2 only (delete as appropriate)*

Name of Participant _____
Date _____
Signature

Name of Investigator _____
Date _____
Signature

taking consent

Name of Witness _____
Date _____
Signature

(If oral consent given)

When completed: 1 for Participant, 1 for investigator site file, 1 to be kept in medical notes