

Findings from the recent published clinical trials on thromboprophylaxis in cancer

Patrick Mismetti

University hospital, Saint-Etienne, France

INSERM U1059 / F-CRIN network - INNOVTE

Venous thromboembolic (VTE) prophylaxis in cancer pts

Rational for the use of thromboprophylaxis in cancer pts

1. acute medical illnesses / immobilization

2. surgical/invasive procedures / immobilization

3. ambulatory setting

- increase in overall survival

- decrease in VTE risk

 - tumor site and classification, vascular compression

 - chemotherapy / endocrine therapy / CVC

 - patients characteristics

extended/short term?

30 days / 7 days

long term? *3-6 months*

- anti-tumoral effect?

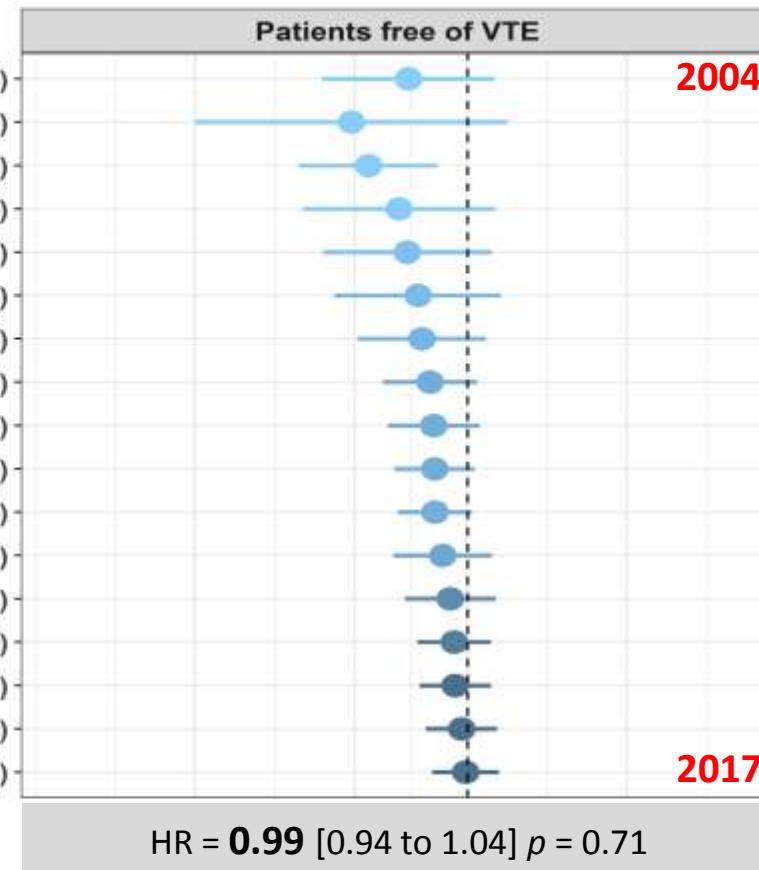
- antithrombotic effect?

Anti-tumoral effect of LMWH: impact on overall survival? updated cumulative meta-analysis

effect on overall mortality

Thromboprophylaxis with LMWH

- Kakkar, 2004 - FAMOUS (N = 374)
- + Altinbas, 2004 - SCLC (N = 458)
- + Klerk, 2005 - MALT (N = 760)
- + Sideras, 2006 (N = 901)
- + Agnelli, 2009 - PROTECHT (N = 2067)
- + Perry, 2010 - PRODIGE (N = 2253)
- + van Doormaal, 2011 - INPACT (N = 2756)
- + Agnelli, 2012 - SAVE-ONCO (N = 5968)
 - + Haas, 2012 - TOPIC 1 (N = 6321)
 - + Haas, 2012 - TOPIC 2 (N = 6868)
- + Maraveyas, 2012 - FRAGEM (N = 6991)
 - + Lecumberri, 2013 - ABEL (N = 7029)
 - + Pelzer, 2015 - CONKO-004 (N = 7341)
- + Macbeth, 2016 - FRAGMATIC (N = 9543)
 - + Khorana, 2017 - PHACS (N = 9641)
 - + Meyer, 2017 - TILT (N = 10190)
 - + Ek, 2017 (N = 10567)



Laporte et al. *in press*

Thromboprophylaxis: → no effect on overall survival
→ effect on VTE = main objective...

VTE prophylaxis in ambulatory cancer pts & chemotherapy

LMWH *versus* no thromboprophylaxis: meta-analysis of 13 RCTs, 6,336 pts

	n RCTs	n pts	RR [CI95%] LMWH vs no prophylaxis	p
symptomatic VTE	9	3 284	0.54 [0.38 ; 0.75]	0.0003
• incidental VTE	4	4 354	0.66 [0.41 ; 1.08]	0.099
major bleeding	13	6 336	1.44 [0.98 ; 2.11]	0.065
CR[‡] bleeding	4	3 105	3.40 [1.20 ; 9.63]	0.022
1-year mortality	8	2 304	0.93 [0.80 ; 1.09]	0.37

‡ Clinically Relevant

Di Nisio et al. Cochrane Database Syst Rev 2016;issue 12.

VTE prophylaxis in ambulatory cancer pts & chemotherapy

SAVE-ONCO: Semuloparin vs placebo - median treatment duration 3.5 months

	semuloparin n=1 608	placebo n = 1 604	RR [CI95%]	p
symptomatic VTE	1.2 %	3.4 %	0.36 [0.21 ; 0.60]	<0.001
major bleeding	1.2 %	1.1 %	1.05 [0.55 ; 2.00]	-
CRNM[‡] bleeding	1.6 %	0.9 %	1.86 [0.98 ; 3.68]	-
mortality	43.4 %	44.5 %	0.96 [0.86 ; 1.06]	0.40

[‡] Clinically Relevant Non Major

Agnelli et al. *New Engl J Med* 2012;366:601-9.

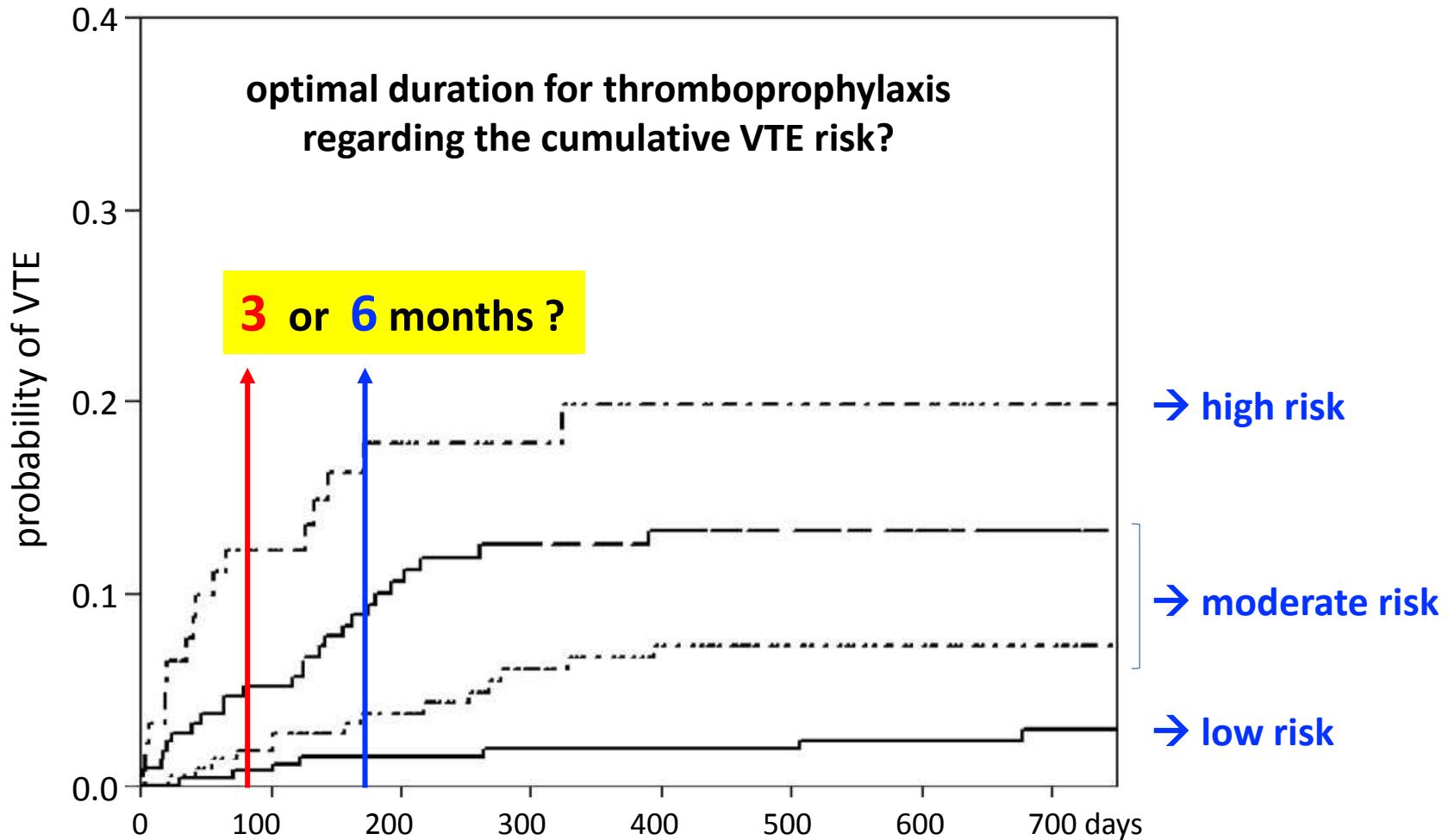
VTE prophylaxis in ambulatory cancer pts & chemotherapy

SAVE-ONCO study: tumor type and related VTE risk

	frequency	VTE risk	
Pancreas	~10 %	~10 %	very high
Bladder			
Lung	~40 %	~5 %	high
Colon / Rectum			
Stomach	~40 %	~2 %	moderate
Ovary			

Optimal duration of VTE proph. in ambulatory cancer pts

819 cancer patients, 66% receiving chemotherapy, 37% with metastatic disease



VTE prophylaxis in ambulatory cancer pts & chemotherapy

VTE prophylaxis: effective and safe but not routinely recommended / used...

- heterogeneous VTE risk - tumor / patients / chemotherapies
- bleeding risk
- parenteral anticoagulants - short duration despite cumulative VTE risk...
- competing risks - high mortality rate not related to VTE / bleeding

Further evaluations of VTE prophylaxis...

- Homogeneous tumor and chemotherapy rather than broad indications...
- Homogeneous study population by using RAM / VTE and bleeding risks...
- Direct Oral Anticoagulants (DOACs) for 6 months rather shorter duration...
- Systematic assessment of incidental VTE on top of symptomatic VTE...

FRAGMATIC trial: lung cancer (NSCLC + SCLC)

PROBE design - Dalteparin 5000 IU od for 24 weeks versus no LMWH

2,202 pts, 129 centres, median follow-up: **23 months**, metastases: 61%, chemotherapy: 83%

	LMWH	no LMWH	
NSCLC / SCLC	904 / 196	905 / 196	
1-year survival	41.3 %	42.5 %	HR = 1.01 [0.93 – 1.10] p=0.81
VTE outcomes	5.5 %	9.7 %	HR = 0.57 [0.42 – 0.79] p<0.001
• incidental PE	1.3 %	2.0 %	
Major bleeding	1.1 %	0.7 %	ns
M + CRNM bleeding[‡]	5.6 %	1.3 %	p<0.001

‡ major and clinically relevant non major bleeding

McBeth et al. *J Clin Oncol* 2016;34:488-94.

Risk Assessment Model for VTE prophylaxis in cancer pts

Khorana score (KS)

- site of cancer
 - ✓ very high risk: stomach pancreas, brain → 2
 - ✓ high risk: lung lymphoma, gynecologic, bladder, testicular → 1
- prechemotherapy platelet count \geq 350 G/L → 1
- Hemoglobin level \leq 100 g/L or use of cell growth factors → 1
- Prechemotherapy leukocyte count \geq 11 G/L → 1
- BMI \geq 35 kg/m² → 1

Khorana et al. *Blood* 2008;111:4902-7.

KS = 0	- VTE risk = 1.5%]	→ low risk
KS = 1	- VTE risk = 3.8%]	→ intermediate risk
KS = 2	- VTE risk = 9.6%]	
KS \geq 3	- VTE risk = 17.7%]	→ high risk

Ay et al. *Blood* 2010;116:5377-82.

VTE prophylaxis in ambulatory cancer pts & chemotherapy

SAVE-ONCO: impact of Khorana score & VTE risk factors on VTE risk / placebo group

	n	% population	VTE risk
KS # =0 → low risk	312	20 %	1.6 %
KS=1-2 → intermediate	1,017	63 %	3.5 %
KS ≥ 3 → high	272	17 %	5.2 %
TOTAL	1,601	100 %	3.4 %

The diagram illustrates the increasing VTE risk across Khorana score categories. A vertical blue line connects the VTE risk values for each category. Brackets on the right side of the table indicate the relative risk increase: a bracket between the 'low risk' and 'intermediate' rows is labeled 'x 2,5', and a bracket between the 'intermediate' and 'high' rows is labeled 'x 4,1'.

Khorana score : tumor type, platelet, red cell, leukocyte, obesity

Chen et al. Am J Hematol 2017;392:E101-E103.

PHACS (Prophylaxis of High-risk Ambulatory Cancer patients Study) study: KS ≥ 3

Open design - Dalteparin 5000 IU od for 12 weeks versus no LMWH

- cancer patients with a **Khorana score ≥ 3**
- new chemotherapy (first or new regimen), **CUS[‡] / 4 weeks & CT scan at 12 weeks**

	LMWH 50	no LMWH 48	
pancreas, stomach	46 %	48 %	
lung, gynecologic, lymphoma	30 %	27 %	
all VTE	12 %	21 %	HR = 0.69 [0.23 – 1.89] ns
symptomatic VTE	4 %	4 %	
incidental PE	2 %	6 %	
proximal DVT (CUS)	4 %	10 %	
Major bleeding	2.0 %	2.1 %	ns
Major + CRNM bleeding	12 %	2.1 %	HR = 7.02 [1.24 – 131] p=0.025

VTE prophylaxis in ambulatory cancer pts & chemotherapy

LMWH versus no thromboprophylaxis: updated meta-analysis

		weighted incidence [CI95%]			
		LMWH	no treatment	RR [CI95%]	p
symptomatic VTE	11 RCTs 5,284 pts	3.9 % [3.2 - 4.6]	7.7 % [6.7 - 8.8]	0.56 [0.45 ; 0.69]	<0.0001
major bleeding	13 RCTs 6356 pts	2.0 % [1.6 - 2.5]	1.5 % [1.0 - 1.9]	1.44 [0.98 ; 2.11]	0.065

NNT = 26

NNH = 200

Risk Assessment Model for VTE prophylaxis in cancer pts

To optimize the Khorana score (KS)

→ to identify a higher proportion of patients at risk <20% with a KS ≥3

Chen et al. *Am J Hematol* 2017;392:E101-E103.

→ to better identify patients at low risk VTE >5% with a KS =0

Cella et al. *The Oncologist* 2017;22:1-8.

40% of the score are related to the tumor type

60% of the score are related to prechemotherapy blood cells counts & obesity

- adding**
- specific biomarkers (D-Dimers, P-selectin...) **Vienna CATS** Ay et al. *Blood* 2010
 - data regarding chemotherapy (platinum...) **PROTECHT** Verso et al. *Intern Emerg Med* 2013
 - some clinical risk factors (history of VTE...) **ONKOTEV** Cella et al. *The Oncologist* 2017

VTE prophylaxis in ambulatory cancer pts & chemotherapy

SAVE-ONCO: impact of Khorana score & VTE risk factors on VTE risk / placebo group

	n	frequency	VTE risk
KS # =0 → low risk	312	20 %	1.6 %
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	n	frequency	VTE risk
risk factor for VTE ‡ = 0	1,855	58 %	2.5 %
≥ 1	1,357	42 %	4.8 %

‡ central venous line, obesity, age ≥ 75 yr, chronic heart or respiratory failure, venous insufficiency / history of VTE

Agnelli et al. *New Engl J Med* 2012;366:601-9.

VTE prophylaxis in ambulatory cancer pts & chemotherapy

ONKOTEV study: multivariate analysis taking into account the competing risk
in 843 ambulatory pts, median follow-up **8.3 months**, VTE = 8.6%

Independant predictors	sHR [‡] [CI95%]	score
• Khorana score > 2	2.51 [1.3-5.0]	1
• metastatic disease	3.09 [1.7-5.5]	1
• vasc/lymph. compression.	2.64 [1.5-4.7]	1
• history of VTE	2.09 [1.1-3.9]	1

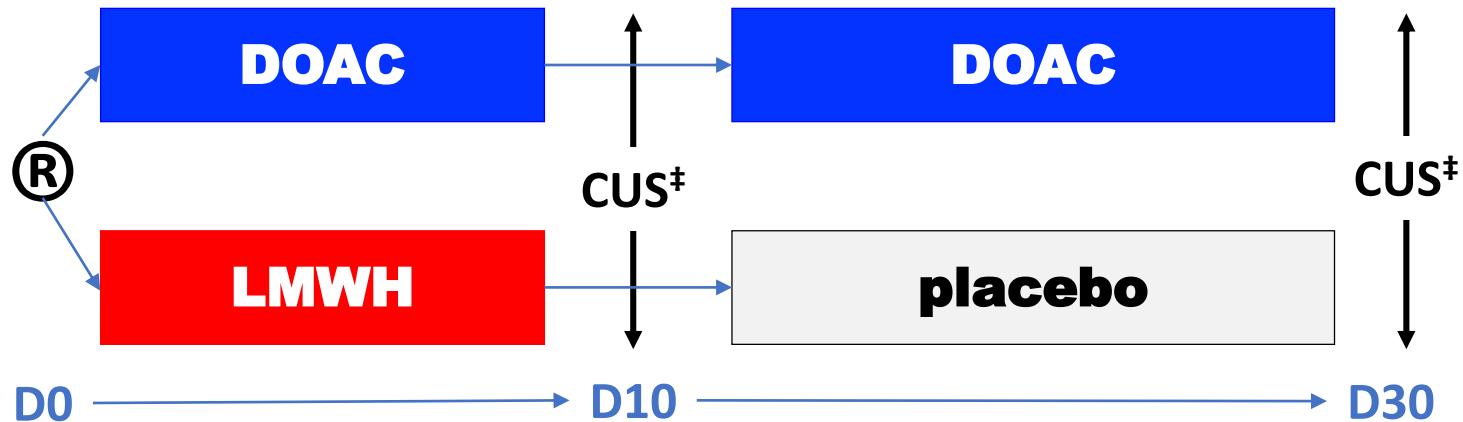
ONKOTEV score	% pop	VTE risk	increase in VTE risk (sHR)
• score >2	6%	33.9%	
• score =2	9%	19.4%	
• score =1	43%	9.7%	x 3.3
• score =0	37%	3.5%	x 6.5

‡ subdistribution Hazard Ratio / fine & Gray model

Cella et al. *The Oncologist* 2017;22:1-8.

DOACs in cancer pts: Extended vs short term prophylaxis in hospitalized medically ill patients

- **MAGELLAN** rivaroxaban vs enoxaparin Cohen et al. *New Engl J Med* 2013;368:513-23.
 - **ADOPT** apixaban vs enoxaparin Goldhaber et al. *New Engl J Med* 2011;365:2167-77.
 - **APEX** betrixaban vs enoxaparin Gibson et al. *N Engl J Med* 2016;375:634-44.
- 3 studies = 21,831 patients - **13% with an history of cancer**

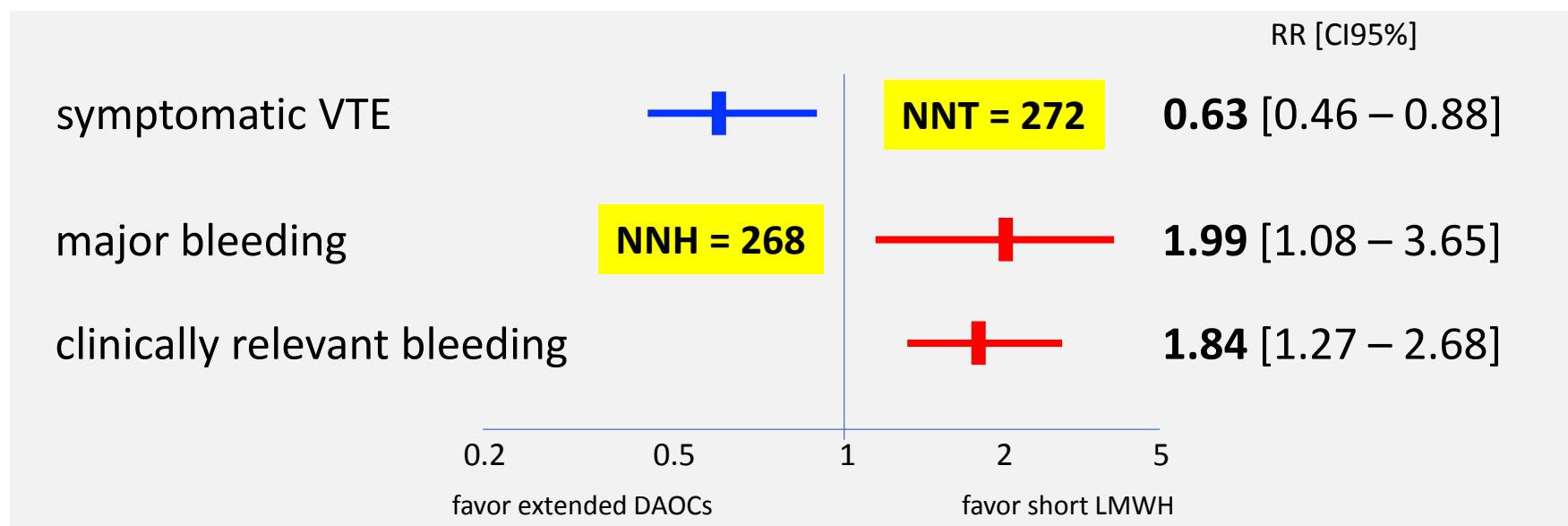


‡ Compression UltraSonography

→ at D10 only for MAGELLAN & ADOPT
→ at D30 for the 3 studies

Extended VTE prophylaxis with DOACs in medically ill pts

Meta-analysis of ADOPT, APEX, MAGELLAN: *extended DOACs vs short LMWH*



Al Yami et al. J Blood Med 2018;9:25-34.

Treatment of CAT with DOACS: Hokusai cancer – edoxaban vs Dalteparin

→ significant increase in major bleeding (especially gastrointestinal)

HR major bleed. edox vs dalte = 1.77 [CI95% 1.03 – 3.04], p=0.04

First experience with DOAC for thromboprophylaxis in ambulatory cancer patient undergoing chemotherapy

phase II study from june 2006 → sept 2008 – early stop / slow recruitment:
patients with advanced or metastatic cancer receiving either 1st or 2nd-line chemotherapy

treatment duration: 12 weeks	Apixaban 5 mg od	Apixaban 10 mg od	Apixaban 20 mg od	placebo
	n=32	n=29	n=32	n=29
M+CRNM bleeding [‡]	3.1 %	3.4 %	12.3 %	3.4 %
Major bleeding	0.0 %	0.0 %	6.3 %	3.4 %
Symptomatic VTE	0.0 %	0.0 %	0.0 %	10.3 %

[‡] major + clinically relevant non major bleeding

Levine et al. *J Thromb Haemost* 2012;10:807-14.

VTE prophylaxis in ambulatory cancer pts & chemotherapy

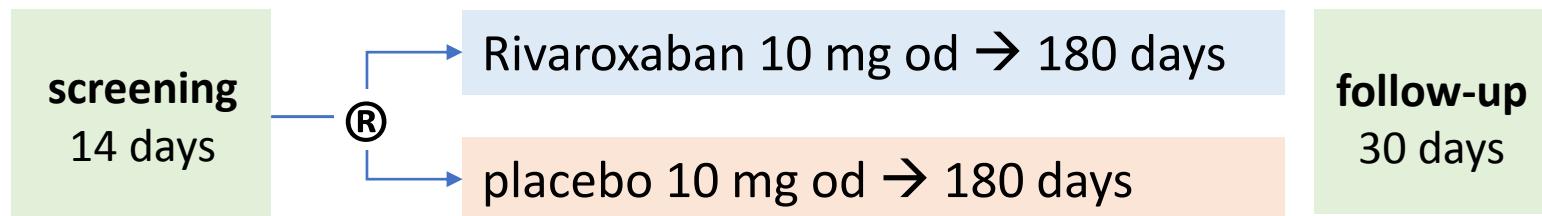
AVERT study NCT02048865

- **apixaban 2.5 mg bid** versus **placebo** for 6 months for thromboprophylaxis in ambulatory cancer patients receiving chemotherapy
- outcomes:
 - symptomatic and asymptomatic VTE
 - major and minor bleedings
- 574 participants, planned from january 2014 → august 2019
- contacts: M. Carrier, Canada

VTE prophylaxis in ambulatory cancer pts & chemotherapy

CASSINI study NCT02555878

- centrally randomized, double-blind, centrally adjudicated study



- inclusion criteria**
 - ≥18 years, ECOG PS 0-2, Khorana score ≥2, CrCl ≥30 mL/mn
 - solid tumors locally advanced or metastatic
- outcomes / 180d ± 3**
 - symptomatic + incidental VTE + asymptomatic proximal DVT
 - major bleeding (ISTH)
- 700 pts** with 6% vs 14.5% / 2-sided type I error = 5%, power = 80% / competing risks

Thromboprophylaxis in ambulatory cancer patients

Unclear benefit-to-risk ratio but favourable background and promising results

1. Improvement of cancer therapy → decrease in competing risk

- easier to identify strong predictors of VTE risk: biomarkers
- easier to develop effective / easy-to-use RAM for both VTE & bleeding risk

2. Development of DOACs

- oral / no drug monitoring / favourable safety profile in other indications
- no evidence for strong drug-drug interaction with chemotherapy

Pending these results, thromboprophylaxis with LMWH could be discussed as following:

- **ambulatory long-term** for cancer patients at very high risk
- **extended** in case of major surgery / invasive procedure
- **short-term** in case of acute medical event with restricted mobility