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Anticoagulant and Antiplatelet Agents

Patient name: _____ Admission: _____

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I. The client/caregiver can define the purpose and action of oral anticoagulant and antiplatelet agents.

- A. The anticoagulant and antiplatelet medication is used to treat or prevent a blood clot that could result in a heart attack, stroke, and other life-threatening problems.
- B. The medications discussed here are to be taken as oral medication.

II. The client/caregiver can list important assessments and evaluations used when taking oral anticoagulants.

- A. Report any signs of bleeding (nosebleeds, bleeding gums, or blood in urine) or bruising promptly.
- B. Avoid taking drugs that may increase the risk of bleeding, such as aspirin or nonsteroidal antiinflammatory drugs without approval of physician.
- C. Instruct client to avoid activities with high risk of injury.

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- D. Male clients should use electric razor.
- E. Take medication exactly as prescribed.
- F. Have blood work done at times specified by physician.
- G. Keep all follow-up visits with physician.
- H. Keep record of any medication changes your physician may give over the phone as a result of recent laboratory tests.
- I. Read food labels. Any foods or supplements that contain vitamin K may impair the effectiveness of anticoagulant medication.

REFERENCES

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