

## **Reversing medications that cause bleeding**

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Antithrombotic medications are the standard of care in many “high risk” conditions, including cardiovascular, cerebrovascular, and venothromboembolic disease. However, an unwanted side-effect of antithrombotic treatment is bleeding, which may span from nuisance-level to life-threatening. This lecture will present a rational, evidence-based approach to reversing antithrombotic-associated bleeding. For instance, what is the best practice for a patient presenting to the ED with an elevated INR? Many treatment options are available: Vitamin K, fresh frozen plasma, prothrombin concentrates, recombinant Factor VIIa, as well as “tincture of time.”

However, selecting among the available options may be difficult. Bleeding risk needs to be delicately balanced with the need for continued anticoagulation. Vitamin K is frequently utilized, but confusion remains regarding the optimal dose and route of administration. This presentation will tackle the misconceptions regarding IV Vitamin K and anaphylaxis risk. Recombinant Factor VIIa is another alternative in the treatment arsenal. Although FDA approved indications for its use are limited, off-label indications account for approximately 90% of its use. This presentation will discuss the indications for recombinant Factor VIIa in the ED setting. By the conclusion of this presentation, participants will better understand how to reverse bleeding complications of antithrombotic medications in the ED setting.

**Dr. Davis** is the associate program director and an assistant professor of emergency medicine at Georgetown University Hospital & Washington Hospital Center. Dr. Davis will be giving multiple lectures at ACEP, ranging from certification to platelets.