

Choosing the right dose of ELIQUIS® (apixaban) for your adult patients

Initiating ELIQUIS 5 mg in adult patients with NVAF



Initiating ELIQUIS

ELIQUIS 5 mg twice-daily (BD) is the recommended dose for patients with NVAF.^{1,2}



MORNING
ELIQUIS 5 mg
5



EVENING
ELIQUIS 5 mg
5

Tablets shown are not actual size.



ELIQUIS can be taken with or without food.¹



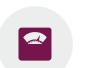
Missed dose: A missed morning dose should be taken immediately when it is noticed, and it may be taken together with the evening dose. A missed evening dose can only be taken during the same evening, the patient should not take two doses the next morning. The patient should continue with the intake of the regular dose twice daily as recommended on the following day.¹

Only use ELIQUIS 2.5 mg BD in patients with NVAF who:¹

- Meet **two or more** of the dose-reduction criteria



Age
≥80 years



Body weight
≤60 kg



Creatinine ≥1.5 mg/dL
(133 µmol/L)

- OR have **severe renal impairment** (CrCl 15–29 mL/min) **alone**

ELIQUIS is not recommended for patients with creatinine clearance <15 mL/min, or in patients undergoing dialysis.¹
Please refer to the ELIQUIS Summary of Product Characteristics for full information.¹

Straightforward switching to ELIQUIS



Switching from warfarin to ELIQUIS¹

Discontinue warfarin

Monitor INR daily until <2.0

Start ELIQUIS BD

Switching from parenteral heparin to another DOAC[†] to ELIQUIS⁴

Discontinue parenteral heparin/DOAC

Start ELIQUIS at the next scheduled dose

Adapted from ELIQUIS Summary of Product Characteristics.¹

Consider ELIQUIS as your first choice DOAC to support positive outcomes for your patients

Prescribing information can be found [on the last page](#).

AF = Atrial Fibrillation BD = Twice Daily CrCl = Creatinine Clearance

DOAC = Direct Oral Anticoagulant DVT = Deep Vein Thrombosis

INR = International Normalised Ratio LMWH = Low Molecular Weight Heparin

NVAF = Non-Valvular Atrial Fibrillation PE = Pulmonary Embolism QD = Once Daily

* In the AMPLIFY trial, 87% of patients had received LMWH, heparin or fondaparinux prior to randomisation. Patients were excluded if they had received more than two doses of a QD LMWH regimen, fondaparinux or warfarin; more than three doses of a BD LMWH regimen; or more than 36 hours of continuous intravenous heparin.³

† Other than ELIQUIS, DOACs currently indicated for prevention of stroke / systemic embolism in adult NVAF patients with one or more risk factors are dabigatran, edoxaban and rivaroxaban.^{5–7}



Start and stay BD with ELIQUIS for the treatment and prevention of recurrent DVT + PE in adults³



ELIQUIS does not require any initial injections or bridging with LMWH^{1,2}



ELIQUIS has a straightforward dosing regimen with high-intensity (10 mg) treatment for only the first 7 days before continuing on 5 mg BD¹

Twice-daily dosing for the treatment and prevention of recurrent DVT + PE¹

Treatment of acute DVT / PE Prevention of recurrent DVT / PE

Initiation ELIQUIS 10 mg BD

7 days



Continued treatment ELIQUIS 5 mg BD

3–6 months



Extended treatment ELIQUIS 2.5 mg BD



Tablets shown are not actual size.

High-intensity treatment for only 7 days before continuing on 5 mg BD

Treat for at least 3 months and up to 6 months

Treat with 2.5 mg BD after 6 months of treatment with ELIQUIS 5 mg BD or another anticoagulant

The duration of overall therapy should be individualized after careful assessment of the treatment benefit against the risk for bleeding, as per available medical guidelines, short duration of treatment (at least 3 months) should be based on transient risk factors (e.g. recent surgery, trauma, immobilisation). No dose adjustment required for DVT / PE patients, based on age, weight or those with mild-to-moderate renal impairment.¹ ELIQUIS should be used with caution in patients with severe renal impairment (CrCl 15–29 mL/min) for the treatment of DVT / PE and prevention of recurrent DVT / PE. ELIQUIS is not recommended in patients with CrCl <15 mL/min, or in patients undergoing dialysis.¹

Eliquis®
apixaban

ELIQUIS® prescribing information

www.eliquis.ie

ELIQUIS® (apixaban) 2.5 mg & 5 mg Film-coated Tablets Prescribing Information

Consult Summary of Product Characteristics (SmPC) before prescribing

PRESENTATION: Film-coated tablets; 5 mg and 2.5 mg apixaban. **INDICATION:** Adults. Prevention of stroke and systemic embolism in adults with non-valvular atrial fibrillation (NVAF) with one or more risk factors, such as prior stroke or transient ischaemic attack (TIA), age \geq 75 years, hypertension, diabetes mellitus or symptomatic heart failure (NYHA Class \geq II). Treatment of deep vein thrombosis (DVT) and pulmonary embolism (PE), and prevention of recurrent DVT and PE in adults (see Special warnings and precautions for information on haemodynamically unstable PE patients). Prevention of venous thromboembolic events (VTE) in adults who have undergone elective hip or knee replacement surgery (2.5 mg only). **Paediatric population:** Treatment of venous thromboembolism (VTE) and prevention of recurrent VTE in paediatric patients from 28 days to less than 18 years of age.

DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION: Oral. Taken with water, or without food. **Prevention of stroke and systemic embolism in adult patients with NVAF:** The recommended dose is 5 mg twice a day. In patients who meet at least two of the following criteria: serum creatinine \geq 1.5 mg/dL (133 micromole/L), age \geq 80 years, or body weight \leq 60 kg the recommended dose is apixaban 2.5 mg twice daily. Patients with severe renal impairment (creatinine clearance 15–29 mL/min) should receive apixaban 2.5 mg twice daily. Therapy should be continued long term. **Treatment of DVT and prevention of recurrent DVT and PE (VTE) in adults:** The recommended dose for the treatment of acute DVT and treatment of PE is 10 mg twice daily for the first 7 days followed by 5 mg twice daily. As per available medical guidelines, short duration of treatment (at least 3 months) should be considered a significant risk factor for major bleeding, see SmPC for further details. Concomitant treatment with any other anticoagulant agent except under specific circumstances of switching anticoagulant therapy or when unfractionated heparin (UFH) is given at doses necessary to maintain an open central venous or arterial catheter or when UFH is given during catheter ablation for atrial fibrillation, see SmPC for further details.

CONTRAINDICATIONS: Hypersensitivity to active substance or to excipients, active clinically significant bleeding, hepatic disease associated with coagulopathy and clinically relevant bleeding risk, lesion or condition if considered a significant risk factor for major bleeding, see SmPC for further details. Concomitant treatment with any other anticoagulant agent except under specific circumstances of switching anticoagulant therapy or when unfractionated heparin (UFH) is given at doses necessary to maintain an open central venous or arterial catheter or when UFH is given during catheter ablation for atrial fibrillation, see SmPC for further details. **WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS: Haemorrhage risk:** Carefully observe for signs of bleeding. Use with caution in conditions with increased risk of haemorrhage. Discontinue administration if severe haemorrhage occurs. A specific reversal agent (andexanet alfa) antagonising the pharmacodynamic effect of apixaban is available for adults. However, its safety and efficacy have not been established in paediatric patients (refer to the summary of product characteristics of andexanet alfa). Transfusion of fresh frozen plasma, administration of prothrombin complex concentrates (PCCs), or recombinant Factor VIIa may be considered. However, there is no clinical experience with the use of 4 factor PCC products to reverse bleeding in paediatric and adult patients who have received apixaban. For information on reversal and managing bleeding, see SmPC for further details. ***serious adverse drug reaction. Interaction with other medicinal products affecting haemostasis:** Concomitant treatment with any other anticoagulant is contraindicated (see contraindications). Concomitant use of apixaban with antiplatelet agents increase the risk of bleeding. Care with concomitant SSRIs, SNRIs, NSAIDs, including acetylsalicylic acid. Following surgery, other platelet aggregation inhibitors are not recommended concomitantly with apixaban. In patients with atrial fibrillation and conditions that warrant mono or dual antiplatelet therapy, a careful assessment of the potential benefits against the potential risks should be made before combining this therapy with apixaban. A clinical trial enrolled patients with atrial fibrillation with ACS and/or undergoing PCI and a planned treatment period with a P2Y12 inhibitor, with or without ASA, and oral anticoagulant (either apixaban or VKA) for 6 months. Concomitant use of ASA increased the risk of ISH (International Society on Thrombosis and Hemostasis) major or CRNM (Clinically Relevant Non-Major) bleeding in apixaban-treated subjects. See SmPC for further details. **Use of thrombolytic agents for the treatment of acute ischaemic stroke:** Limited experience. **Adults and paediatric patients with prosthetic heart valves:** Safety and efficacy of apixaban have not been studied in patients with prosthetic heart valves, with or without atrial fibrillation. Therefore, the use of apixaban is not recommended in this setting. **Patients with antiphospholipid syndrome:** Direct acting Oral Anticoagulants (DOACs), including apixaban, are not recommended for patients with a history of thrombosis who are diagnosed with antiphospholipid syndrome (see SmPC for further details). **Surgery and invasive procedures:** Discontinue at least 48 hours prior to elective surgery or invasive procedures with a moderate or high risk of bleeding. Discontinue at least 24 hours prior to elective surgery or invasive procedures with a low risk of bleeding. If surgery or invasive procedures cannot be delayed, appropriate caution should be exercised, taking into consideration an increased risk of bleeding. Apixaban should be restarted after the invasive procedure or surgical intervention as soon as possible provided the clinical situation allows and adequate haemostasis has been established. For patients undergoing catheter ablation for atrial fibrillation, apixaban treatment does not need to be interrupted. **Temporary discontinuation:** Discontinuing anticoagulants, including apixaban, for active bleeding, elective surgery, or invasive procedures places patients at an increased risk of thrombosis. Lapses in therapy should be avoided and if anticoagulation with apixaban must be temporarily discontinued for any reason, therapy should be restarted as soon as possible. **Spinal/epidural anaesthesia or puncture:** Patients treated with antithrombotic agents for prevention of thromboembolic complications are at risk of developing an epidural or spinal haematoma which can result in long-term or permanent paralysis. The risk of these events may be increased by the post-operative use of indwelling epidural catheters or the concomitant use of medicinal products affecting haemostasis. Indwelling epidural or intrathecal catheters must be removed at least 5 hours prior to the first dose of apixaban. The risk may also be increased by traumatic or repeated epidural or spinal puncture. Patients are to be frequently monitored for signs and symptoms of neurological impairment (e.g., numbness or weakness of the legs, bowel or bladder dysfunction). If neurological compromise is noted, urgent diagnosis and treatment is necessary. Prior to neuraxial intervention the physician should consider the potential benefit versus the risk in anticoagulated patients or in patients to be anticoagulated for thromboprophylaxis. There is no clinical experience with the use of apixaban with indwelling intrathecal or epidural catheters. No data are available on the timing of the placement or removal of neuraxial catheter in paediatric patients while on apixaban. In such cases, discontinue apixaban and consider a short acting parenteral anticoagulant. See SmPC for further details. **Haemodynamically unstable PE patients or patients who require thrombolysis or pulmonary embolectomy:** Apixaban is not recommended as an alternative to unfractionated heparin in patients with pulmonary embolism who are haemodynamically unstable or may receive thrombolysis or pulmonary embolectomy since the safety and efficacy of apixaban have not been

established. **Patients with active cancer:** Patients with active cancer can be at high risk of both venous thromboembolism and bleeding events. When apixaban is considered for DVT or PE treatment in cancer patients, a careful assessment of the benefits against the risks should be made. **Renal impairment:** see dosage and administration section. **Elderly patients:** Increasing age may increase haemorrhagic risk. Also, the co-administration of apixaban with ASA in elderly patients should be used cautiously because of a potentially higher bleeding risk. **Body weight:** In adults low body weight (< 60 kg) may increase haemorrhagic risk. **Heaptic impairment:** see dosage and administration section. **Interaction with Inhibitors of CYP3A4 and P-gp:** Not recommended with strong inhibitors of both CYP3A4 and P-gp. These medicinal products may increase apixaban exposure by 2-fold or greater in the presence of additional factors that increase apixaban exposure (e.g. severe renal impairment). No clinical data are available in paediatric patients receiving concomitant systemic treatment with strong inhibitors of both CYP 3A4 and P-gp. See SmPC for further details. **Interaction with Inducers of CYP3A4 and P-gp:** Apixaban should not be used for the treatment of DVT and PE in patients receiving concomitant systemic treatment with strong inducers of both CYP3A4 and P-gp since efficacy may be compromised. Concomitant systemic treatment with strong inducers of both CYP3A4 and P-gp, apixaban should be used with caution for the prevention of VTE in elective hip or knee replacement surgery, for the prevention of stroke and systemic embolism in patients with NVAF and for the prevention of recurrent DVT and PE, though no dose adjustment for apixaban is required during concomitant therapy with such medicinal products. No clinical data are available in paediatric patients receiving concomitant systemic treatment with strong inducers of both CYP 3A4 and P-gp. **Hip fracture surgery:** Apixaban has not been studied in clinical trials in patients undergoing hip fracture surgery. Therefore, it is not recommended in these patients. **Laboratory parameters:** Clotting tests (PT, INR, and aPTT) are affected by the mechanism of action of apixaban. Changes observed at the expected therapeutic dose are small and subject to a high degree of variability, see SmPC for further details. **Information about exipients:** Apixaban contains lactose. Patients with galactose intolerance, total lactase deficiency or glucose-galactose malabsorption should take Eliquis. **DRUG INTERACTIONS:** Apixaban should be used with caution when co-administered with SSRIs/SNRIs, NSAIDs, ASA and/or P2Y12 inhibitors because these medicinal products typically increase the bleeding risk. There is limited experience of co-administration with other platelet aggregation inhibitors (such as GPIIb/IIIa receptor antagonists, dipyridamole, dextran or sulfinpyrazone) or thrombolytic agents. As such agents increase the bleeding risk, co-administration of these products with apixaban is not recommended. In study CV185325, no clinically important bleeding events were reported in the 12 paediatric patients treated with apixaban and ASA \leq 165 mg daily concomitantly. See SmPC for further details. Due to an increased bleeding risk, concomitant treatment with any other anticoagulants is contraindicated, except under specific circumstances of switching anticoagulant therapy, when UFH is given at doses necessary to maintain an open central venous or arterial catheter or when UFH is given during catheter ablation for atrial fibrillation. Administration of activated charcoal reduces apixaban exposure. **Paediatric population:** Interaction with other medicinal products affecting haemostasis: Concomitant treatment with any other anticoagulant is contraindicated (see contraindications). Concomitant use of apixaban with antiplatelet agents increase the risk of bleeding. Care with concomitant SSRIs, SNRIs, NSAIIDs, including acetylsalicylic acid. Following surgery, other platelet aggregation inhibitors are not recommended concomitantly with apixaban. In patients with atrial fibrillation and conditions that warrant mono or dual antiplatelet therapy, a careful assessment of the potential benefits against the potential risks should be made before combining this therapy with apixaban. A clinical trial enrolled patients with atrial fibrillation with ACS and/or undergoing PCI and a planned treatment period with a P2Y12 inhibitor, with or without ASA, and oral anticoagulant (either apixaban or VKA) for 6 months. Concomitant use of ASA increased the risk of ISH (International Society on Thrombosis and Hemostasis) major or CRNM (Clinically Relevant Non-Major) bleeding in apixaban-treated subjects. See SmPC for further details. **Use of thrombolytic agents for the treatment of acute ischaemic stroke:** Limited experience. **Adults and paediatric patients with prosthetic heart valves:** Safety and efficacy of apixaban have not been studied in patients with prosthetic heart valves, with or without atrial fibrillation. Therefore, the use of apixaban is not recommended in this setting. **Patients with antiphospholipid syndrome:** Direct acting Oral Anticoagulants (DOACs), including apixaban, are not recommended for patients with a history of thrombosis who are diagnosed with antiphospholipid syndrome (see SmPC for further details). **Surgery and invasive procedures:** Discontinue at least 48 hours prior to elective surgery or invasive procedures with a moderate or high risk of bleeding. Discontinue at least 24 hours prior to elective surgery or invasive procedures with a low risk of bleeding. If surgery or invasive procedures cannot be delayed, appropriate caution should be exercised, taking into consideration an increased risk of bleeding. Apixaban should be restarted after the invasive procedure or surgical intervention as soon as possible provided the clinical situation allows and adequate haemostasis has been established. For patients undergoing catheter ablation for atrial fibrillation, apixaban treatment does not need to be interrupted. **Temporary discontinuation:** Discontinuing anticoagulants, including apixaban, for active bleeding, elective surgery, or invasive procedures places patients at an increased risk of thrombosis. Lapses in therapy should be avoided and if anticoagulation with apixaban must be temporarily discontinued for any reason, therapy should be restarted as soon as possible. **Spinal/epidural anaesthesia or puncture:** Patients treated with antithrombotic agents for prevention of thromboembolic complications are at risk of developing an epidural or spinal haematoma which can result in long-term or permanent paralysis. The risk of these events may be increased by the post-operative use of indwelling epidural catheters or the concomitant use of medicinal products affecting haemostasis. Indwelling epidural or intrathecal catheters must be removed at least 5 hours prior to the first dose of apixaban. The risk may also be increased by traumatic or repeated epidural or spinal puncture. Patients are to be frequently monitored for signs and symptoms of neurological impairment (e.g., numbness or weakness of the legs, bowel or bladder dysfunction). If neurological compromise is noted, urgent diagnosis and treatment is necessary. Prior to neuraxial intervention the physician should consider the potential benefit versus the risk in anticoagulated patients or in patients to be anticoagulated for thromboprophylaxis. There is no clinical experience with the use of apixaban with indwelling intrathecal or epidural catheters. No data are available on the timing of the placement or removal of neuraxial catheter in paediatric patients while on apixaban. In such cases, discontinue apixaban and consider a short acting parenteral anticoagulant. See SmPC for further details. **Haemodynamically unstable PE patients or patients who require thrombolysis or pulmonary embolectomy:** Apixaban is not recommended as an alternative to unfractionated heparin in patients with pulmonary embolism who are haemodynamically unstable or may receive thrombolysis or pulmonary embolectomy since the safety and efficacy of apixaban have not been

established. **Patients with active cancer:** Patients with active cancer can be at high risk of both venous thromboembolism and bleeding events. When apixaban is considered for DVT or PE treatment in cancer patients, a careful assessment of the benefits against the risks should be made. **Renal impairment:** see dosage and administration section. **Elderly patients:** Increasing age may increase haemorrhagic risk. Also, the co-administration of apixaban with ASA in elderly patients should be used cautiously because of a potentially higher bleeding risk. **Body weight:** In adults low body weight (< 60 kg) may increase haemorrhagic risk. **Heaptic impairment:** see dosage and administration section. **Interaction with Inhibitors of CYP3A4 and P-gp:** Not recommended with strong inhibitors of both CYP3A4 and P-gp. These medicinal products may increase apixaban exposure by 2-fold or greater in the presence of additional factors that increase apixaban exposure (e.g. severe renal impairment). No clinical data are available in paediatric patients receiving concomitant systemic treatment with strong inhibitors of both CYP 3A4 and P-gp, apixaban should be used with caution for the prevention of VTE in elective hip or knee replacement surgery, for the prevention of stroke and systemic embolism in patients with NVAF and for the prevention of recurrent DVT and PE (VTE) in adults. **Treatment of DVT and PE, and prevention of recurrent DVT and PE (VTE) in adult patients:** Common: anaemia, thrombocytopenia*, haemorrhage*, epistaxis*, nausea; gingival bleeding*, gamma-glutamyltransferase increased; alanine aminotransferase increased; skin rash; haematuria*, contusion; specific haemorrhage such as gastrointestinal*, mouth*, rectal*, abdominal vaginal*, urogenital*. Uncommon: hypersensitivity*, anaphylaxis*, haemoptysis*, haematochezia*, liver function test abnormal (including blood bilirubin increased); specific haemorrhage such as eye (including conjunctival*), haemorrhoidal*, muscle*, application site bleeding*, occult blood positive*, post procedural*, wound secretion*, incision site*, operative*, traumatic*. Rare: specific haemorrhage such as brain (encompassing intracranial, intraspinal)*, respiratory tract*. Not known: angioedema*, erythema multiforme*, cutaneous vasculitis*, anticoagulant-related nephropathy*. **Treatment of VTE and prevention of recurrent VTE in paediatric patients from 28 days to less than 18 years of age:** Very Common: epistaxis*, specific haemorrhage such as abnormal vaginal (including heavy menstrual bleeding, intermenstrual bleeding, and vaginal haemorrhage*) and urogenital*. Common: anaemia; thrombocytopenia*, hypersensitivity*, allergic oedema*, anaphylaxis*, pruritus, haemorrhage*, haematochezia*, hypotension (including procedural hypotension); nausea; haematochezia*, gingival bleeding*, liver function test abnormal (including blood bilirubin increased); aspartate aminotransferase increased; skin rash; alopecia; haematuria*, contusion; specific haemorrhage such as rectal*, post procedural*, wound secretion*, incision site*, operative*. Not known: angioedema*, haemoptysis*, erythema multiforme*, cutaneous vasculitis*, anticoagulant-related nephropathy*. **Specific haemorrhage such as brain (encompassing intracranial, intraspinal)*, eye (including conjunctival*), intra-abdominal*, respiratory tract*, gastrointestinal*, haemorrhoidal*, mouth*, retroperitoneal*, muscle*, application site bleeding*, occult blood positive* and traumatic*. ***serious adverse drug reaction****

+ Includes anaphylactic reaction, drug hypersensitivity, and hypersensitivity.

Refer to SmPC for all other adverse events

LEGAL CATEGORY: POM

MARKETING AUTHORISATION NUMBER: EU/11/691/002

(carton of 20 film-coated tablets 2.5 mg), EU/11/691/003

(carton of 60 film-coated tablets 2.5 mg), EU/11/691/008

(carton of 56 film-coated tablets 5 mg), EU/11/691/014

(carton of 28 film-coated tablets 5 mg).

MARKETING AUTHORISATION HOLDER: Bristol-Myers Squibb/Pfizer E&G, Plaza 254, Blanchardstown Corporate Park 2, Dublin 15, D15 T867, Ireland.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: medical.info@bms.com or 1 800 749 749 (Ireland).

DATE OF PREPARATION: April 2025

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

Approval code: 432-IE-2500005

Adverse events should be reported. Reporting forms and information can be found at: Ireland - via HPRA Pharmacovigilance at www.hpra.ie
Adverse events should also be reported to Bristol-Myers Squibb via medical.info@bms.com or 1 800 749 749 (Ireland).

References: 1. ELIQUIS® (apixaban) Summary of Product Characteristics. Available at <http://www.medicines.ie> 2. Alexander JH et al. JAMA Cardiol 2016; 1: 673-681. 3. Agnelli G et al. N Engl J Med 2013; 369: 799-808. 4. Steffel J et al. Eur Heart J 2018; 39: 1330-1393 5. Edoxaban; Summary of Product Characteristics. Available at <http://www.ema.europa.eu>. 6. Rivaroxaban; Summary of Product Characteristics. Available at <http://www.ema.europa.eu>. 7. Dabigatran; Summary of Product Characteristics. Available at <http://www.ema.europa.eu>.

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