

Community
Anticoagulation
Therapy
Clinic

DOCUMENT TITLE	NUMBER	REV
Overview of CAT Clinic Service	3502CATC	1

PURPOSE (outline the intent or objective of the document)

To provide an overview of services of the CAT Clinic.

DEFINITIONS AND ACRONYMS (provide clear understanding to words, abbreviations that may be ambiguous)

CAT Clinic – Community Anticoagulation Therapy Clinic

PROCEDURE/FLOWCHART (describe the steps in which work objectives are achieved; include statements, to the extent necessary, that explain the why, what, when, where, who and how)

1. The CAT Clinic will provide the following services to its patients:
 - Assess the patient for risk of complication related to anticoagulation therapy.
 - Manage the patient's anticoagulation therapy with the referring physicians via a signed guideline approved by the CAT Clinic medical director.
 - Provide education about anticoagulation therapy to the patient and significant others.
 - Maximize the benefits of anticoagulation therapy by collecting data to show percent of patients in range, missed doses per patient, patient and provider satisfaction with the program and complications requiring hospitalization.
2. Qualifications of CAT Clinic RN providing care to patients enrolled in the CAT Clinic:
 - The RN will have a valid Registered Nursing License in the state of Iowa.
 - The RN will complete the Anticoagulation Therapy Management Certificate program within 6 months of hire.
 - Excellent interpersonal and customer service skills.
3. Responsibilities of physicians referring patients to the CAT Clinic:
 - Complete a CAT Clinic Referral Standing Order form for each patient referred to the clinic.
 - Inform the patient about referral and enrollment in the CAT Clinic.
 - Respond to inquiries from the CAT Clinic nurse in a timely manner.
 - Do not address clinical concerns outside of anticoagulation therapy.
 - In the absence of the referring physician there shall be a physician on-call and available for consultation.
 - Contact the CAT Clinic nurse with changes that may affect anticoagulation therapy (change in medications, knowledge of surgical procedure, etc.).
 - Collaborate with CAT Clinic nurse regarding non-compliant patients and patients that may be discharged for non-compliance or completion of therapy.

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- Contact CAT Clinic if patient expires or the physician withdraws the patient from his/her service.
4. Responsibilities of the CAT Clinic nurse:
- Review all new referrals and orders. If the nurse has questions or concerns she will contact the referring physician.
 - Educate the referring physician's office staff about the CAT Clinic services.
 - Educate the referring physicians that standing orders for coumadin management and refills are good for one year.
 - Provide a new referral form to the referring physician annually for each patient enrolled in the CAT Clinic.
 - Follow the established anticoagulation guideline. Notify the physician when INR's are out-of-range, or if the patient reports problems that cannot be handled by the CAT Clinic nurse
 - Communicate in writing or via the telephone (if the INR is out of range) with the referring physician each time an INR is received.
 - Refer patients for a physician visit when necessary and consult with the referring physician for urgent situations.
5. Responsibilities of the CAT Clinic Medical Director.
- Approve all CAT Clinic policies, procedures and guidelines before implementation.
 - Approve revisions to CAT Clinic policies, procedure and guidelines.
 - Serve as a contact for the CAT Clinic nurse for questions and concerns.
6. Discontinuation of responsibilities of the CAT Clinic Medical Director and CAT Clinic nurse:
- The Medical Director or CAT Clinic nurse are not responsible for a patient's anticoagulation management if the warfarin is being adjusted, held or monitored by any provider that is not the referring physician.

RECORDS (results or evidence of work performed)

Referral Standing Order 6002CATC
Introduction Letter 4501CATC
Warfarin Guideline INR Target Range of 2-3 6511CATC
Warfarin Guideline INR Range of 2.5-3.5 6512CATC
Physician Communication Record 6004CATC

REVISION HISTORY			
Rev	Description of Change	Approval	Date
0	Initial document	J. Levett, MD	12/16/05
1	Changed protocol to guideline	J. Levett, MD	2/24/06