

## **Anti-Coagulation Clinic and Lab at Bellewood**

*The Snoqualmie Valley Hospital District provides an Anti-Coagulation Clinic and Lab services at Bellewood for your convenience. Please review the following frequently asked questions.*

### **What is the purpose of the Anti-Coagulation Clinic?**

To monitor the blood thinning effect of Coumadin/warfarin to confirm it is adequate and not excessive.

### **Why should I participate in an Anti-Coagulation Clinic?**

The most important thing about Coumadin/warfarin is that it is monitored by only one person. Many physicians refer their patients to an Anti-Coagulation Clinic because of it's exclusive focus and instructions are quickly obtained.

### **What does the Anti-Coagulation Clinic do?**

The clinic monitors the levels, gives dosing instructions and provides the necessary prescriptions for each patient.

### **Who can participate?**

Anyone on Coumadin/warfarin can participate though they must be referred by the physician currently managing the Coumadin/warfarin. This referral is necessary to ensure that it is apparent who is now managing the Coumadin/warfarin dosing for the patient.

### **What if I am part of Group Health?**

Group Health tends to prefer to manage their Coumadin/warfarin patients. Talk to your physician to ask if they are willing to refer you to our Anti-Coagulation Clinic. If they prefer to continue to manage the dosing, ask if they are willing to order your blood to be drawn by lab staff member (we will send your physician the results).

### **How can I be referred into the Anti-Coagulation Clinic?**

The physician currently responsible for placing you on Coumadin/warfarin simply sends a written referral. That physician can use their own form or they can use our referral form. These forms are available from your community or our Anti-Coagulation Clinic staff member.

### **What is a visit to the Anti-Coagulation Clinic like?**

Our lab staff member will collect blood through a finger prick and analyze your sample immediately. You will then be given written instructions about your Coumadin/warfarin dose and when to return for your next test. Sometimes your results require the lab staff member to contact the physician overseeing the Anti-Coagulation Clinic in order to receive your dosing instructions. In this case, you will receive your written instructions within two hours. You will always receive them in written form.

### **Will my insurance pay for this management service?**

Medicare, Medicaid and most insurance plans pay for this service. If you are a Group Health member, your physician will have to authorize for you specifically.

### **What if my physician prefers to make the adjustments?**

Your lab test can still be collected and the results sent to your physician to make the adjustments and he or she will give you instructions as well as arrange your refills for Coumadin/warfarin.

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# **Lab Services**

## **Separate from the Anti-Coagulation Clinic**

### **Who can use the lab services?**

Anyone. Any insurance.

### **Do I need an appointment?**

No. Simply come to the designated space anytime during the time we are on site. This time will be posted in your newsletters.

### **What is needed?**

You will need to bring a signed order from your physician. We will bill your insurance—please provide us with your insurance information on your first visit.

### **How do I get registered in the Snoqualmie Valley Hospital District system?**

You can obtain a packet from your resident community or from the lab staff member. We will also need a copy of your insurance card and a copy of your ID. You only need to register with Snoqualmie Valley Hospital District once—after that we will just confirm with you that the information is unchanged.

### **How will my results get to my physician?**

Your results are automatically faxed to your physician as soon as they are completed. Any worrisome results will be called immediately to your physician.