

Anti-Coagulation Clinic at University House

The Snoqualmie Valley Hospital District provides an Anti-Coagulation Clinic at University House 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 its 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.