

# Pharmacoeconomic Study on Rivaroxaban vs Conventional Venous Thromboembolism Prophylaxis Following Elective Total Hip or Knee Replacement Surgery in Serbia: Single Centre Study

Saša R. Perović<sup>1</sup>, Leposava B. Sikimić<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Hemofarm AD, Vršac, Serbia

<sup>2</sup> Institute for Orthopaedic Surgery “Banjica”, Belgrade, Serbia

## SUMMARY

**Introduction:** Venous thromboembolism (VTE) is often clinically unobservable, showing the first symptoms only after the patient has been discharged from the hospital, owing to which symptoms may not be recognized in time and serious complications may arise after hip or knee replacement surgery. The outcome for a patient who has had a symptomatic episode of VTE may be bad due to a risk of recurrent VTE and the development of post-thrombotic syndrome. The annual incidence of VTE is around 80-180 cases in 100.000, based on population studies. Worldwide, orthopaedists and anaesthesiologists mostly refer to ACCP guidelines from America, or guidance from NICE and Scottish Medicines Consortium in Europe. All the guidelines include rivaroxaban as a therapy of choice for the prevention of VTE following elective arthroplasty as the therapy with rivaroxaban has shown both effectiveness and cost-savings. Many countries have included rivaroxaban as a medicine of first choice in the therapy for the above described indication.

**Aim:** The objective of this analysis is to demonstrate cost-effectiveness of the new therapy with rivaroxaban versus conventional in VTE prophylaxis for patients undergoing elective hip or knee replacement surgery.

**Methodology:** This paper is a part of the academic IV phase pharmacoeconomic study using extrapolation datas (RECORD 1, RECORD 2, RECORD 3) done in Serbia as single center experience of Institute for Orthopaedic Surgery “Banjica”, in 2015.

Information on drug prices, basic pharmacological characteristics, and on services of health institutions, are taken from the List of Drugs and Pricelist of the Republic Health Insurance Fund, as well as the Thromboembolism Prophylaxis Guide of the Institute “Banjica”. The Incremental cost-effectiveness ratio (ICER) and Cost-utility analysis (CUA) have also been used in relation to the Quality-adjusted life-year (QALY). Furthermore, in the calculation the proposed price of a defined daily dose (DDD) of rivaroxaban was 3.36 EUR.

**Results:** Total savings obtained annually through the application of rivaroxaban instead of usual prophylaxis (6,900 surgeries) could lead to cost savings of EUR 511,248.35 with the ICER value shows that therapy with rivaroxaban is dominant.

**Conclusions:** The introduction of rivaroxaban in the therapy will enable patients to receive more conformable oral therapy with the same amount of health insurance resources

Corresponding author:

Saša R. Perović, EccD, MD, PhD

Hemofarm AD, 26300 Vršac, Beogradski put bb, Serbia

E-mail: sasa.perovic@yahoo.com

spent, while on the other hand significant savings will be obtained owing to a decrease in the number of inpatient days in hospitals, as well as owing to the fact that regular control examinations of INR and number of blood platelets will not be necessary, which otherwise may amount to EUR 511,248.35 annually for the said indication.

The authors suggest support for the IV phase of the investigator initiated academic clinical trials with the intention of gaining security and personal experiences of doctors who use rivaroxaban in clinical practice.

**Keywords:** venous thromboembolism prophylaxis, low molecular weight heparins, rivaroxaban, hip, knee replacement surgery

## INTRODUCTION

Venous thromboembolism (VTE) comprises both: deep vein thrombosis (DVT) and pulmonary embolism (PE) [1,2]. VTE occurs often with an annual frequency of about 80-180 cases per 100,000 estimated based on population studies [3-5]. One third of patients with symptomatic VTE is presented as PE, and two thirds as DVT [4]. It is estimated that 63% of all VTE cases are a complication related to a recent hospitalisation [6]. Venous thromboembolism has been cited as a cause of death in up to 10% of patients who died in hospital [7,8]. In patients undergoing a prophylactic therapy, the rate is significantly lower.

Low molecular weight heparins (LMWH's) are used to prevent and treat thrombosis. Tests for monitoring LMWH's include anti-factor Xa (anti-FXa), activated partial thromboplastin time (aPTT) and thrombin generation. Anti-FXa is the current gold standard despite LMWH's varying affinities for FXa and thrombin [9].

While anti-FXa activity assays are reliable determinants of the concentration of LMWH in the blood [Harris] and are established as a gold standard, they do not necessarily correlate well to the actual effect of the drug in vivo: they describe pharmacokinetics rather than pharmacodynamics. Tests of global coagulation such as aPTT and PT-INR are different from anti-FXa activity tests in that they reflect LMWH's clinical effect [10,11]

The risk for VTE in major orthopaedic surgery is among the highest for all surgical specialties. Anticoagulant therapy in orthopaedic surgery patients is usually administered in two stadiums: - in the first, with quick anticoagulation the risk of thrombus extension is minimised as well as the risk of fatal PE, and - in the second, prolonged stadium, with long term anticoagulation. On this way recurrence of VTE is prevented and thus long term com-

plications from the disease are reduced such development of post-thrombotic syndrome and chronic hypoxic pulmonary hypertension [12]. It is estimated that approximate risk for the combined symptomatic VTE untreated baseline risk for the first 35 days is 4.3% for all three major orthopaedic surgeries (hip and knee replacement, hip fracture). LMWH has become the thromboprophylaxis agent against which newer drugs are compared. For hip and knee replacement LMWHs consistently reduces asymptomatic DVT by 50% combined risk ratio (RR), 0.50; 95% CI, 0.43-0.59). A lot of guidelines include rivaroxaban as the therapy of choice for prevention of VTE after elective arthroplasty since the therapy with rivaroxaban has provided, apart from efficacy, cost-effectiveness [13-15]. The guidelines recommend the continuation of use of rivaroxaban upon the patient's discharge from hospital treatment for additional 35 days for the hip replacement and 14 days for the knee replacement. Rivaroxaban is an oral, direct and specific factor Xa inhibitor [16,17]. It inhibits the free and fibrin-bound factor Xa, inhibits the creation of thrombins and does not influence directly aggregation of thrombocytes and thus the primary hemostasis. During the application of rivaroxaban there is no need for the PV (INR) monitoring and its once daily dose of 10mg makes it very simple and practical for application in all adult patients [16,17].

In XAMOS, an international, IV phase-noninterventive, observational, open-label, real-world study designed to assess the safety and effectiveness of oral rivaroxaban compared with any other VTE prophylaxis (referred to as SOC) in clinical practice in patients after major orthopaedic surgery (including fracture surgery in those countries in which rivaroxaban is approved for this indication), the incidence of symptomatic thromboembolic events was significantly lower in the rivaroxaban group (0.9%) compared with

the SOC group (1.4%; odds ratio, 0.65; 95% confidence interval, 0.49–0.87) [18].

The RECORD 1 (n = 4541) [19] and RECORD 2 (n = 2509) [20] programme trials were multicentre, prospective, double-blind, parallel-group design RCTs comparing rivaroxaban with enoxaparin for the prevention of VTE after total hip replacement surgery. In RECORD 1, rivaroxaban was administered at a dosage of 10 mg once daily for 35 days starting on the day of surgery. Enoxaparin was administered at a dosage of 40 mg starting 1 day before surgery and for 35 days thereafter. For this study, the manufacturer reported a statistically significant difference in the incidence of the composite primary endpoint between rivaroxaban and enoxaparin based on a 'modified' intention to treat (MITT) analysis. The primary endpoint occurred in 1.1% of the rivaroxaban group compared with 3.7% of the enoxaparin group; relative risk reduction (RRR) was 70% (95% [CI] 49 to 82,  $p < 0.001$ ) [20].

In Serbia, the anticoagulant therapy with unfractionated heparin (UFH), low molecular weight heparin (LMWH) and warfarin are standard of care treatment for VTE after orthopedic surgery Institute for Orthopaedic Surgery "Banjica", Belgrade, Serbia doctors use Thromboembolism Prophylaxis Guide prepared and adopted in Institute [21].

## THE AIM

The aim of this study is to demonstrate cost-effectiveness of the new therapy with rivaroxaban versus conventional in VTE prophylaxis for patients undergoing elective hip or knee replacement surgery.

## METHODS

This paper is a part of the academic IV phase pharmacoeconomic study using extrapolation data, done in Serbia as single center experience of Institute for Orthopaedic Surgery "Banjica". With at least 4600 expected elective hip replacement and 2300 expected elective knee replacement surgeries per year in Serbia, patients who are under the same age and sex are comparable with the patients included in studies RECORD 1 and RECORD 2 [19,20].

Information on drug prices, basic pharmacological characteristics, and on services of health institutions, are taken from

the List of Drugs and Pricelist of the Republic Health Insurance Fund [22], as well as the Thromboembolism Prophylaxis Guide of the Institute "Banjica" [21]. The Incremental cost-effectiveness ratio (ICER) and Cost-utility analysis (CUA) have also been used in relation to the Quality-adjusted life-year (QALY). Furthermore, in the calculation the proposed price of a defined daily dose (DDD) of rivaroxaban was 3.36 EUR.

In Serbia, LMWH's are most often used in orthopaedic surgery and has been included into the calculation. Difference in price per day of the therapy with low molecular weight heparin is relatively small, so we believe that our applied model may be approximated to an application of other low molecular weight heparins in the prevention of VTE in elective hip and knee surgeries.

In the statistical data processing, for the purpose of authenticity and applicability in „everyday practice“ the most used therapeutic scheme has been used, including the frequency of INR controls and the usual number of days of hospital stay.

Pharmacoeconomic model is divided into three modules:

- prophylaxis period,
- extrapolation period,
- late complications period.

### Prophylaxis period

Even though in the approved indications for the application of rivaroxaban the proposed dosage scheme is 6-8 hours after the surgical intervention (*Xarelto*®, *Bayer*) [17], during the preparation of the pharmacoeconomic study and with the purpose of making it applicable on the territory of Serbia, we have used recommendations provided in the expert opinion which represents an integral part of the documentation of the Application to include the medicine in the Reimbursement List (Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia) [22]: LMWH administered a day before and 2 days after the surgery, from day 3, including warfarin and continuation of the therapy with the same up to 14 days from the knee surgery, i.e. up to 35 days from the hip surgery. Application of warfarin, determining the dose as well as monitoring of INR are, in line with the approved protocols, followed by regular controls of INR and number of thrombocytes.

Risk of VTE during the prophylaxis period has been estimated based on data from

RECORD 1 and RECORD 3 pivotal phase III studies, for patients undergoing elective hip replacement surgery (RECORD 1) [19] or knee replacement surgery (RECORD 3) [23].

With rivaroxaban there is no need for INR monitoring, and according to internal hospital protocols, the introduction of rivaroxaban could reduce the number of days of hospital stay:

1. elective knee replacement surgery --> reduction of in hospital days from 14 to 10 (total of 4 days)
2. elective hip replacement surgery --> reduction of in hospital days from 21 to 14 (total of 7 days).

#### Post-prophylaxis period (extrapolation period)

In order to assess the probability to develop a symptomatic venous thromboembolism after a non-treated asymptomatic VTE (observed in a period of 90 days after the termination of prophylaxis). It has been used the publication Quinlan et al. (2004),–Mid-term complications.

#### Late complications period

In order to assess recurrence of VTE, observed over a monitoring period of 5 years, data has been used from Prandoni et al. (1997) [13].

Furthermore, Quality adjusted life years (QALYs, quality of life during the monitoring period) has been estimated based on a statistical model which included the probability of occurrence of venous thromboembolism, pulmonary embolism, postthrombotic syndrome, recurrent VTE.

In favour of proper classification of costs of treatment, are shown in the tables all costs following procedures burdening certain

therapeutic protocols. Also, in the absence of implementation of the Diagnosis-related group (DRG), shows the cost of the medical staff who work in the department.

## RESULTS

The data listed in the tables were obtained by extrapolation method data from the register: Additional days of hospitalisation, Costs of treatment of DVT/PE during the prophylaxis application [18], Costs of treatment of recurrent VTE, during the period of 1 year [11].

The use of rivaroxaban may reduce the costs of the Republic Health Insurance Fund by 71.49 EUR per patient on an annual level, with simultaneous improvement of the quality of life. Needlessness of INR monitoring and determining the number of thrombocytes, lower number of days of hospitalisation (7 days), lower costs of treatment of DVT/PE during the prophylaxis application and of recurrent VTE, makes application of rivaroxaban more cost-effective than standard prophylaxis in one year period.

The use of rivaroxaban may reduce the costs of the Republic Health Insurance Fund by 75.84 EUR per patient at a five year level, with simultaneous improvement of the quality of life. Needlessness of INR monitoring and determining the number of thrombocytes, lower number of days of hospitalisation (7 days), lower costs of treatment of DVT/PE during the prophylaxis application and of recurrent VTE, makes application of rivaroxaban more cost-effective than standard prophylaxis in five years period.

The use of rivaroxaban may reduce the costs of the Republic Health Insurance Fund by 79.30 EUR per patient during the

**Table 1.** Elective hip replacement surgery/costs per patient in EUR/First year

	Rivaroxaban	Current prophylaxis	Difference
Costs of prophylaxis of VTE (medicine <i>per se</i> )	117.66	19.28	98.38
INR monitoring + determining the number of thrombocytes	0.00	79.22	-79.22
Additional days of hospitalisation (7 days)	0.00	82.58	-82.58
Costs of treatment of DVT/PE during the prophylaxis application (RECORD 1)	11.45	17.88	-6.43
Costs of treatment of recurrent VTE, during the period of 1 year (Prandoni et al)	0.60	2.24	-1.64
<b>Total costs</b>	<b>129.71</b>	<b>201.20</b>	<b>-71.49</b>
Quality adjusted life years (QALYs)	0.7969	0.7963	0.0005
Symptomatic VTE (Quinlan et al)	<b>0.0049</b>	<b>0.0120</b>	<b>- 0.0072</b>

	Rivaroxaban	Current prophylaxis	Difference
Costs of prophylaxis of VTE (medicine <i>per se</i> )	117.66	19.28	95.69
INR monitoring + determining the number of thrombocytes	0.00	79.22	-79.22
Additional days of hospitalisation (7 days)	0.00	82.58	-82.58
Costs of treatment of DVT/PE during the prophylaxis application (RECORD 1)	11.45	17.88	-6.41
Costs of treatment of recurrent VTE, during the period of 5 years (Prandoni et al)	2.19	8.19	-5.99
<b>Total costs</b>	<b>131.30</b>	<b>207.15</b>	<b>-75.84</b>
Quality adjusted life years (QALYs)	3.8673	3.8661	0.0012
Symptomatic VTE (Quinlan et al)	<b>0.0059</b>	<b>0.0145</b>	<b>- 0.0086</b>

**Table 2.** Elective hip replacement surgery/costs per patient in EUR/Five years period

first year period, with simultaneous improvement of the quality of life. Needlessness of INR monitoring and determining the number of

thrombocytes, lower number of days of hospitalisation (4 days), lower costs of treatment of DVT/PE during the prophylaxis application

	Rivaroxaban	Current prophylaxis	Difference
Costs of prophylaxis of VTE (medicine <i>per se</i> )	47.06	17.50	29.57
INR monitoring + determining the number of thrombocytes	0.00	43.88	-43.88
Additional days of hospitalisation (4 days)	0.00	47.19	-47.19
Costs of treatment of DVT/PE during the prophylaxis application (RECORD 3)	13.97	26.42	-12.45
Costs of treatment of recurrent VTE, during the period of 1 year (Prandoni et al)	1.93	7.29	-5.36
<b>Total costs</b>	<b>62.97</b>	<b>142.27</b>	<b>-79.31</b>
Quality adjusted life years (QALYs)	0.7985	0.7971	0.0014
Symptomatic VTE (Quinlan et al)	<b>0.0118</b>	<b>0.0333</b>	<b>- 0.0214</b>

**Table 3.** Elective knee replacement surgery/costs per patient in EUR/First year period

and of recurrent VTE, makes application of rivaroxaban more cost-effective than standard prophylaxis in one year period.

The use of rivaroxaban may reduce the costs of the Republic Health Insurance

Fund by 93.50 EUR per patient during five years period, with simultaneous improvement of the quality of life. Needlessness of INR monitoring and determining the number of thrombocytes, lower number of days of hos-

	Rivaroxaban	Current prophylaxis	Difference
Costs of prophylaxis of VTE (medicine <i>per se</i> )	47.06	17.50	26.80
INR monitoring + determining the number of thrombocytes	0.00	43.88	-43.88
Additional days of hospitalisation (4 days)	0.00	47.19	-47.19
Costs of treatment of DVT/PE during the prophylaxis application (RECORD 3)	13.97	26.42	-12.42
Costs of treatment of recurrent VTE, during the period of 5 years (Prandoni et al)	7.04	26.57	-19.51
<b>Total costs</b>	<b>68.08</b>	<b>161.56</b>	<b>-93.48</b>
Quality adjusted life years (QALYs)	3.8072	3.8038	0.0034
Symptomatic VTE (Quinlan et al)	<b>0.0143</b>	<b>0.0401</b>	<b>- 0.0258</b>

**Table 4.** Elective knee replacement surgery/costs per patient in EUR/Five years period

**Table 5.** Overview of savings in health insurance

Type of surgery	Number of surgeries	Savings at an annual level EUR	Savings at a five years' level EUR
Hip replacement	4600	328,845.58	348,879.48
Knee replacement	2300	182,402.78	214,995.38
<b>Total</b>	<b>6900</b>	<b>511,248.35</b>	<b>563,874.85</b>

pitalisation (4 days), lower costs of treatment of DVT/PE during the prophylaxis application and of recurrent VTE, makes application of rivaroxaban more cost-effective than standard prophylaxis in five years period.

#### Medical staff expenses

With the present method of financing health

care in the Republic of Serbia, the Republic Health Insurance Fund transfers funds in its financial plan to health care institutions for salary payments to medical and non-medical staff. In order to calculate the actual, economic costs of hospitalisation, costs of labour of the medical staff engaged in taking care of patients with a hip or knee replaced should be added to

**Table 6.** Medical staff expenses per patient (in EUR)

	Specialist doctor	Nurse	Total
Average gross salary	990.23	424.38	
Price of working hour (180/month)	5.50	2.36	
No. of working hours a day	24	24	
Daily price of the medical staff	132.10	56.58	
No. of patients per medical staff	10	10	
Price of labour of medical staff per patient	13.21	5.66	<b>18.87</b>

the cost of a hospital day.

This is very important due to changes of the payment system according to the Diagnostically related groups (DRG) which is expected to be implemented in the Republic Health Insurance Fund in the coming period.

A daily cost of income for the medical staff at the department per patient is modelled according to the Institute for Orthopaedic Surgery "Banjica".

Considering the reduction of in-hospital days after elective knee replacement surgery from 14 to 10 (4 days total) and the reduction of in-hospital after elective hip replacement surgery from 21 to 14 (7 days total), additional saving of 75.50 i.e. 132.00 EUR per patient which, at the total annual level, represents savings of 173,588.50 EUR for patients with knee replacement and 607,559.70 EUR for patients with hip replacement, could lead to total saving for the Republic Health Insurance Fund of 781,148.20 EUR annually.

Incremental cost effectiveness ratio (ICER)  
 $ICER = C_{XR} - C_{SP} / E_{XR} - E_{SP} = \Delta C / \Delta E$

Hip replacement surgery

C XR-costs for patients treated with rivaroxa-

ban for the period of 1 year

C SP-costs for patients treated with current prophylaxis for the period of 1 year

E XR-QALY years of life for patients treated with rivaroxaban

E SP-QALY years of life for patients treated with current prophylaxis

ICER=129.70-201.20/7,969-7,963

ICER=-71.50/0,006=-**11,916.70 EUR/QALY**

Knee replacement surgery

C XR-costs for patients treated with rivaroxaban for the period of 1 year

C SP-costs for patients treated with current prophylaxis for the period of 1 year

E XR-QALY years of life for patients treated with rivaroxaban

E SP-QALY years of life for patients treated with current prophylaxis

ICER=62.97-142.30/7,985-7,971

ICER=-79.33/0,014=-**5,666.40 EUR/QALY**

Considering that in both cases  $C_{XR} < C_{SP}$  and  $E_{XR} > E_{SP}$ , we come to a conclusion that rivaroxaban is dominant, i.e. less costly and more effective than current prophylaxis. The incremental cost-effectiveness ratio has shown that costs of therapy with rivaroxaban

Strategy	Costs EUR	Marginal expenses	Effect QALY	Marginal effect QALY	CU ratio
Not doing anything	0	-	0	-	-
Current prophylaxis	201.20	201.20	7,963	7,963	25.63
Rivaroxaban	129.71	-71.49	7,969	0,006	-11,914.69

**Table 7.** Hip replacement surgery-CUA for a period of one year

are significantly lower than with the current prophylaxis with simultaneous improvement in the quality of life for patients treated with rivaroxaban.

### COST- UTILITY ANALYSIS (CUA)

From the table 7 it can be seen that the strategy for introduction of rivaroxaban in the therapy is highly cost-effective as it could result in savings of 12,358.90 EUR per QALY during a one year period.

From the table 8 it can be seen that the strategy for introduction of rivaroxaban in the therapy is highly cost-effective considering it could result in savings of 5,998.30 EUR per QALY during a one year period.

### INDIRECT COSTS

It can be assumed that a certain percentage of patients belong to the working population, so the VTE complications surely lead to extension of sick leaves paid by the funds (the

Strategy	Costs EUR	Marginal expenses	Effect QALY	Marginal effect QALY	CU ratio
Not doing anything	0	-	0	-	-
Current prophylaxis	142.27	142.27	7,971	7,971	18.21
Rivaroxaban	62.97	-79.31	7,985	0,014	-5,664.68

**Table 8.** Knee replacement surgery-CUA for a period of one year

Republic Health Insurance Fund), as well as to previous and subsequent loss in productivity which is not to be dismissed from the socio-economic aspect, both of the patient as of the society as a whole.

### NON-MATERIAL (INTANGIBLE) COSTS

Other expenses which accompany VTE complications may not be precisely and exactly defined in monetary units but are not insignificant and put great pressure on the insurers and the insured of the Republic Health Insurance Fund and may be classified in the following sub-groups:

- Somatic factors: pain, disability, low mobility, sleep disorders;
- Mental factors: reaction, concentration, memory;
- Psychic factors: fear, depression, anxiety and apathy;
- Social factors: conflict, addiction.

ter the patient is discharged from the hospital which may lead to symptoms not being recognised on time and to serious complications after the knee or the hip surgeries.

With at least 4600 expected elective hip replacement surgeries per year in Serbia and observed during the first year period, application of rivaroxaban would save the Republic Institute for Health Insurance 328,845.60 EUR. Savings achieved at a five year level (long-term complications) would reach 348,879.50 EUR.

Estimated at least 2300 expected elective knee replacement surgeries at annual level and observed during the first year period, application of rivaroxaban would save the Republic Institute for Health Insurance 182,402.80 EUR. Savings achieved at a five year level (later complications) would reach 214,995.40 EUR.

The introduction of rivaroxaban in the therapy will enable patients to receive more conformable oral therapy, with significant savings. This will be obtained owing to a decrease in the number of inpatient days in hospitals, as well as owing to the fact that regular control examinations of INR and number of blood platelets will not be necessary, which otherwise may amount to 511,248.40 EUR an-

## DISCUSSION

Venous thromboembolism is often clinically unobserved and it shows its first symptoms af-

nually for the said indication plus additional 781,148.10 EUR upon DRG implementation.

Indirect and non-material (Intangible) costs such as sick leaves paid by the health insurance funds, loss in productivity, pain, disability, low mobility, sleep disorders, reaction, concentration, memory, fear, depression, anxiety and apathy, conflicts, addiction, also affect both the cost of further treatments, and the quality of life of patients and their families.

## CONCLUSION

Venous thromboembolism is often clinically unobservable, showing the first symptoms only after the patient has been discharged from the hospital, owing to which symptoms may not be recognized in time and serious complications may arise after hip or knee replacement surgery.

With rivaroxaban there is no need for INR monitoring, and according to internal hospital protocols, the introduction of rivaroxaban could reduce the number of days of hospital stay. With at least 4600 expected elective hip replacement 2300 and expected elective knee replacement surgeries per year in Serbia and observed during the first year period, application of rivaroxaban would save the Republic Health Insurance Fund 511,248.40 EUR. Savings achieved at a five year level (long-term complications) would reach 563,874.90 EUR.

The introduction of rivaroxaban in the therapy enabled patients to receive more conformable oral therapy.

This analysis demonstrated cost-effectiveness of the new therapy with rivaroxaban versus conventional in VTE prophylaxis for patients undergoing elective hip or knee replacement surgery.

The authors suggest support for the IV phase of the investigator initiated academic clinical trials with the intention of gaining security and personal experiences of doctors who use rivaroxaban in clinical practice.

## CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The clinical study reported has not been sponsored by any drug producers.

## REFERENCES

1. Scarvelis D, Wells PS. Diagnosis and treatment of deep-vein thrombosis. *CMAJ*. 2006 Oct 24; 175(9): 1087-92.

2. Kearon C. Natural history of venous thromboembolism. *Circulation*. 2003 June 17; 107 (23 Suppl 1): I22-30.

3. Cushman M, Tsai AW, White RH, Heckbert SR, Rosamond WD, Enright P, et al. Deep vein thrombosis and pulmonary embolism in two cohorts: the longitudinal investigation of thromboembolism etiology. *Am J Med*. 2004 Jul 1; 117 (1): 19-25.

4. White RH. The epidemiology of venous thromboembolism. *Circulation*. 2003 Jun 17; 107(23 Suppl 1): I4-8.

5. Heit JA, O'Fallon WM, Petterson TM, Lohse CM, Silverstein MD, Mohr DN, et al. Relative impact of risk factors for deep vein thrombosis and pulmonary embolism: a population-based study. *Arch Intern Med*. 2002 Jun 10; 162 (11): 1245-8.

6. Carrier M, Le Gal G, Wells PS, Rodger MA. Systematic review: case-fatality rates of recurrent venous thromboembolism and major bleeding events among patients treated for venous thromboembolism. *Ann Intern Med*. 2010 May 4; 152 (9): 578-89.

7. Quinlan DJ, McQuillan A, Eikelboom JW. Low-molecular-weight heparin compared with intravenous unfractionated heparin for treatment of pulmonary embolism: a metaanalysis of randomized, controlled trials. *Ann Intern Med*. 2004 Feb 3; 140(3):175-83.

8. van Dongen CJ, van den Belt AG, Prins MH, Lensing AW. Fixed dose subcutaneous low molecular weight heparins versus adjusted dose unfractionated heparin for venous thromboembolism. *Cochrane Database Syst Rev*. 2004(4): CD001100.

9. Thomas O, Lybeck E, Strandberg K, Tynngård N, Schött U. Monitoring Low Molecular Weight Heparins at Therapeutic Levels: Dose-Responses of, and Correlations and Differences between aPTT, Anti-Factor Xa and Thrombin Generation Assays. *Katoh M, ed. PLoS ONE*. 2015;10(1):e0116835.

10. Sibbing D, Spannagl M (2014) Direct oral anticoagulants and antiplatelet agents. Clinical relevance and options for laboratory testing. *Hamostaseologie* 34: 78-84.

11. Greaves M (2002) Limitations of the laboratory monitoring of heparin therapy. Scientific and Standardization Committee Communications: on behalf of the Control of Anticoagulation Subcommittee of the Scientific and Standardization Committee of the International Society of Thrombosis and Haemostasis. *ThrombHaemost* 2002; 87: 163-164

12. Prandoni P. Prevention and treatment of venous thromboembolism with low-molecular-weight heparins: Clinical implications of the recent European guidelines. *Thrombosis Journal*. 2008;6:13.

13. NICE. Rivaroxaban for the prevention of venous thromboembolism after total hip or total knee replacement in adults. London: NHS2009 Contract No TA170.

14 Eikelboom JW, Karthikeyan G, Fagel N, Hirsh J.



American Association of Orthopedic Surgeons and American College of Chest Physicians guidelines for venous thromboembolism prevention in hip and knee arthroplasty differ: what are the implications for clinicians and patients? *Chest*. 2009 Feb;135 (2): 513-20.

15. Scottish Medicines Consortium. Rivaroxaban (Xarelto) for the prevention of venous thromboembolism (VTE) in adult patients undergoing elective hip or knee replacement surgery 2008 Contract No.: 519/08.

16. Bayer: Summary of Product Characteristics; Xarelto 10mg and 20mg film coated tablets; The electronic medicines compendium 2013.

17. <http://www.alims.gov.rs/ciril/files/lekovi/smpc/515-01-05366-13-001.pdf>

18. Turpie AG, Haas S, Kreutz R, Mantovani LG, Patanayak CW, Holberg G, Jamal W, Schmidt A, van Eickels M, Lassen MR. A non-interventional comparison of rivaroxaban with standard of care for thromboprophylaxis after major orthopaedic surgery in 17,701 patients with propensity score adjustment. *Thromb Haemost*. 2014 Jan;111(1):94-102. doi: 10.1160/TH13-08-0666. Epub 2013 Oct 24.

19. Eriksson BI, Borris LC, Friedman RJ, et al; RECORD1 Study Group. Rivaroxaban versus enoxaparin for thromboprophylaxis after hip arthroplasty. *N Engl J Med*. 2008;358 (26): 2765 - 2775.

20. Kakkar AK, Brenner B, Dahl OE, et al; RECORD2 Investigators. Extended duration rivaroxaban versus short-term enoxaparin for the prevention of venous thromboembolism after total hip arthroplasty: a double-blind, randomised controlled trial. *Lancet*. 2008;372 (9632): 31 - 39.

21. Nikolić V, Konstantinović S, Gajić G, Krneta O, Stevanović V, Vukotić M, Ilić R, Cosić S, Pejnović S, Jovanović F, Grbić M. Thromboembolism Prophylaxis Guide of the Institute for Orthopaedic Surgery "Banjica", Belgrade, Serbia, 2011.

22. Pravilnik o Listi lekova koji se prepisuju i izdaju na teret sredstava zdravstvenog osiguranja, Službeni glasnik Republike Srbije 76/2013 (Rulebook of List of Medicines Prescribed and Dispensed under Compulsory Health insurance. Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia 76/2013).

23. Lassen MR, Ageno W, Borris LC, Lieberman JR, Rosencher N, Bandel TB, Misselwitz F, Turpie AGG, for the RECORD3 Investigators. Rivaroxaban versus Enoxaparin for Thromboprophylaxis after Total Knee Arthroplasty. *N Engl J Med* 2008; 358:2776-2786.

## Farmakoekonomska studija o rivaroksabanu nasuprot konvencionalne profilakse venske tromboembolije u elektivnoj hirurgiji totalne zamene kuka i kolena u Srbiji: unicentrična studija

Saša R. Perović<sup>1</sup>, Lepasava B. Sikimić<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Hemofarm AD, Vršac, Srbija

<sup>2</sup> Institut za ortopedsku hirurgiju "Banjica", Beograd, Srbija

### KRATAK SADRŽAJ

**Uvod:** Venska tromboembolija (VTE) je često klinički neprimetna, pokazujući svoje prve simptome tek kada je pacijent otpušten iz bolnice, zbog čega se simptomi ne mogu prepoznati na vreme, pa ozbiljne komplikacije mogu nastati posle hirurške zamene kuka ili kolena. Ishod za pacijenta koji je imao simptomatsku epizodu VTE može biti loš zbog rizika od rekurentne VTE i razvoja post-trombotičkog sindroma. Godišnja incidenca VTE iznosi oko 80-180 slučajeva na 100.000, na osnovu populacionih studija. Širom sveta, ortopedi i anesteziolozi najviše se pozivaju na smernice ACCP vodiča iz Amerike, ili vodiča NICE i Scottish Medicines Consortium-a iz Evrope. Svi vodiči uključuju rivaroksaban kao terapiju izbora za prevenciju VTE u elektivnoj artroplastiji zato što se terapija rivaroksabanom pokazala efikasnijom i štedljivijom. Mnoge zemlje su uključile rivaroksaban kao lek prvog izbora u terapiji za gore opisanu indikaciju.

**Cilj:** Cilj ove analize je da predstavi isplativost nove terapije rivaroksabanom u odnosu na konvencionalnu VTE profilaksu za pacijente koji se podvrgavaju elektivnoj hirurškoj zameni kuka ili kolena.

**Metodologija:** Ovaj rad je deo akademske IV faze farmakoekonomske studije korišćenjem ekstrapolacije podataka (RECORD1 RECORD2, RECORD3) rađene 2015 u Srbiji kao uni-centrična studija "Instituta za ortopedsku hirurgiju "Banjica". Informacija o cenama lekova, osnovnim farmakološkim karakteristikama i uslugama zdravstvenih ustanova preuzete su iz Liste lekova i Cenovnika usluga Republičkog fonda za zdravstveno osiguranje, kao i Vodiča za prevenciju tromboembolije Instituta "Banjica". Inkrementalni odnos isplativosti (ICER) i analiza odnosa troškova i koristi (CUA) takođe su korišćeni u odnosu na godine života prilagođene prema kvalitetu QALY).

**Rezultati:** Ukupna ušteda ostvarena na godišnjem nivou kroz primenu rivaroksabana umesto uobičajene profilakse (6,900 operacija) mogla bi da dovede do uštede troškova od EUR 511,248.35 sa ICER vrednošću koja pokazuje da je terapija rivaroksabanom dominantna.

**Zaključak:** Uvođenje rivaroksabana u terapiju omogućiće pacijentima da primaju mnogo konformniju oralnu terapiju uz iste iznose utrošaka sredstava zdravstvenog osiguranja, dok sa druge strane donosi značajne uštede smanjenjem broja bolničkih dana kao i zbog nepotrebnosti kontrole INR i broja trombocita, koji, s druge strane, mogu dostići iznos od EUR 511,248.35 godišnje za pomenutu indikaciju.

**Ključne reči:** prevencija venske tromboembolije, nisko molekularni heparini, rivaroksaban, hirurgija zamene kuka, kolena

Received: February 15, 2017  
Accepted: March 20, 2017