



## **Preoperative Instructions For Patients Taking Coumadin**

### **For The Patient:**

Our records indicate that you are currently taking the blood thinner coumadin. High levels of coumadin in the blood inhibits clotting and, therefore, can be a serious problem when teeth are extracted. It is important that your physician evaluate and possibly modify your coumadin schedule to maximize safety while minimizing the chance of bleeding both during surgery and after surgery.

**You will need to contact your physicians office regarding your coumadin schedule.** Our office can not make recommendations regarding your coumadin schedule; only the prescribing physician can. Correct blood levels will need to be achieved before surgery can be accomplished in our office. Please take or fax this form to your doctors office and follow their instructions.

### **For The Physician:**

This patient requires oral surgery. Surgery in our office can be accomplished if the INR is 2.5 or below; a preoperative INR will be needed. A written verification of that INR will need to be in our office prior to surgery.

**Please contact your patient with appropriate preoperative coumadin instructions.** Please keep in mind that the INR does not need to be lower than 2.5 and, in some cases, surgery can be performed if the INR is higher. Please contact our office if reducing the INR to 2.5 will put the patient at significant medical risk. **A copy of the preoperative INR will be needed in our office at the time of surgery in our office.** Please fax (or have the lab fax) the INR results to our office fax 419-473-0142.

Usually, patients are able to immediately restart their coumadin regimen. For patients taking coumadin in the evening, we are comfortable having the coumadin restarted that evening. Patients taking coumadin in the morning can restart their prescribed regimen the morning after surgery.

Please contact our office should further medical actions be taken to optimize surgical care for your patient. We remain available to answer any questions that you or your staff may have regarding this issue.

Respectfully,

Timothy M. Lawrence, DDS, MS