

# Apixaban Loading in Anticoagulated Patients

## Updates to Antiplatelet Bridging Therapy in Cardiac Catheterization

March 12, 2026, 12:00PM-1:00PM CT/1:00PM-2:00PM ET  
St. Luke's Family Practice MOB3 LL and Virtual via Teams

**Overview:** This presentation will review the pharmacology of apixaban in which it is appropriate to initiate apixaban loading in patients previously receiving therapeutic anticoagulation. It will also clarify recommended loading strategies when transitioning from alternative IV or oral anticoagulants. In addition, the presentation will cover current guidelines and recommendations surrounding available strategies to bridge patients requiring antiplatelet therapy from cardiac catheterization, compare and contrast available pharmacologic agents, and compare P&T Committee's stance on cangrelor with current best practices.

**Speakers:** Gerek Simonis, PharmD, and Olivia Vlasin, PharmD, PGY-1, PGY-1 Pharmacy Residents, Advocate Aurora St. Luke's Medical Center

**Preceptors:** James Mathia, PharmD, BCPS, and Ryan Stormont, PharmD, BCCCP, BCPT

### Objectives:

1. Outline the pharmacology and mechanism of action of apixaban as a direct oral anticoagulant
2. Identify the clinical indications for initiating apixaban inpatients already on therapeutic anticoagulation and transitions from alternative IV and oral anticoagulants
3. Identify updated guidelines and recommendations in the setting of antiplatelet bridging post-cardiac catheterization
4. Outline and compare available pharmacologic agents in the setting of antiplatelet bridging post-cardiac catheterization

**Target Audience:** Advocate Health Pharmacists, Physicians, Nurses, and other interested healthcare professionals

**Link to Pharmacy Grand Rounds 2026 Sessions:** [Pharmacy Grand Rounds 2026 | Advocate Health](#)

**Disclosure:** The planner(s) and speaker(s) have indicated that there are no relevant financial relationships with any ineligible companies to disclose.

**Commercial Support:** There is no financial support for this activity.

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Questions about this activity? [Elaine.r.thomas@advocatehealth.org](mailto:Elaine.r.thomas@advocatehealth.org)