



**To:** Members of the Division of Hematology and Thromboembolism  
**From:** Dr. S. Bates, Division Director, Hematology and Thromboembolism  
Dr. C. Hayward, Head, Coagulation, HRLMP  
**cc:** T. Di Francesco, Manager, Special Hematology and Genetics, HRLMP  
K. Moffat, Technical Specialist, Coagulation, HRLMP  
**Date:** March 17, 2016  
**Re:** Apixaban anti-Xa levels

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Effective **April 5, 2016**, the Special Coagulation Laboratory, HRLMP, will offer apixaban anti-Xa activity levels.

These levels will only be performed when approved by a Hematologist / Thrombosis Specialist. If the name of the Hematology / Thrombosis Specialist is not provided at time of ordering, the level will not be run. A comment will be made in Meditech and the sample will be saved for 4 weeks.

The following comment will auto-attach and release with all apixaban levels:

**There is no therapeutic range established for apixaban. The lower limit of detection for this assay is 20 ng/ml.**

**Reported ranges of levels in patients receiving apixaban for various indications are as follows:**

**2.5 mg bid**

**Peak: 30 – 221 ng/ml**

**Trough: undetectable – 162 ng/ml**

**5 mg bid**

**Peak: 59 – 321 ng/ml**

**Trough: 22 – 230 ng/ml**

**10 mg bid**

**Peak: 111 – 572 ng/ml**

**Trough: 41 – 335 ng/ml**

**This assay will detect the presence of any Xa inhibitor, such as rivaroxaban, UFH, LMWH, fondaparinux, or danaparoid.**

The Meditech mnemonic will be APIX. Testing requires a sodium citrate (blue top) sample. Samples received between 8:00 am and 5:00 pm Monday to Friday and between 8:00 am and 3:00 pm weekends and statutory holidays will be run the same day. After hours samples will be frozen and run the next morning.

If you have any questions regarding the introduction of the apixaban activity level, or any other coagulation laboratory issue, please contact Karen Moffat, Technical Specialist, Coagulation by email: [moffat@hhsc.ca](mailto:moffat@hhsc.ca) or by phone, 905-521-2100 extension 73124.