

Guidelines for Coagulation Investigations Prior to Radiological Examinations

Courtesy of Dr J Perry – Consultant Radiologist

Procedures with a low risk of bleeding – includes IVC filter placement, ascitic drain, superficial lymph node biopsy

INR<2.0

Platelets>50,000

Antiplatelet therapy: do not withhold

LMWHeparin: withhold one dose before procedure

Procedures with a moderate risk of bleeding – includes angiography, retroperitoneal LN biopsy, liver biopsy, intraperitoneal abscess drainage

INR<1.5

Platelets>50,000

Clopidogrel: Withhold for 5 days before procedure

Aspirin: do not withhold

LMWHeparin: Withhold one dose before procedure

Procedures with a high risk of bleeding – includes renal biopsy, **nephrostomy placement**

INR<1.5

APTT: Stop or reverse heparin for values >1.5 times normal

Clopidogrel: Withhold for 5 days before procedure

Aspirin: Withhold for 5 days before procedure

LMWHeparin: Withhold for 24hours or 2 doses.

These parameters are based on the SIR Consensus Guidelines for Peri-procedural Management of Coagulation Status and Hemostasis Risk in Percutaneous Image-guided Interventions, J Vasc Interv Radiol 2009; 20:S240-S249