

- Venous thromboembolism (VTE) is a major burden on healthcare systems around the world and standard treatment regimens with a heparin and vitamin K antagonist (VKA) have several significant limitations, which have limited their effectiveness in clinical practice for several decades.
- Clinical studies have been performed with four new oral anticoagulants (NOACs), however, they had limited follow-up periods and inclusion of important patient groups, such as the elderly, very overweight, patients with renal impairment or those who were not white, which may reduce the generalizability of the results in clinical practice.
- Of note, the Hokusai-VTE study with edoxaban had a number of design features that helped simulate clinical practice, and therefore may be applicable to clinical practice in areas not investigated in other VTE studies.
- Overall, the NOACs demonstrated similar efficacy and improved bleeding outcomes versus standard of care treatment.
- The choice of particular NOAC will likely depend on individual patient characteristics as they were studied in different patient populations and some require once-daily dosing while others are taken twice daily.

This summary slide represents the opinions of the authors. Article processing charges for this review were funded by Daiichi Sankyo Europe GmbH. Medical writing assistance for this review was provided by Faysal Riaz and Simon Lancaster of inScience Communications, Springer Healthcare, Chester, UK and was funded by Daiichi Sankyo Europe GmbH. For a full list of acknowledgments and conflicts of interest for all authors of this article, please see the full text online. Copyright © The Authors 2014. Creative Commons Attribution Noncommercial License (CC BY-NC).