

## **Information for Patients**

# **Taking warfarin and your forthcoming surgery**

As you are about to undergo surgery in the near future you will have to make several preparations.

You take warfarin, which is known as an anticoagulant and this helps to thin your blood. You are likely to have been prescribed this medication for a specific medical condition or following surgery.

Due to its blood thinning properties, taking warfarin means that you have a tendency to bleed more easily. This can make the surgery more difficult.

Therefore, we recommend that you stop your prescribed dose of warfarin four days prior to your surgery. You should liaise with your haematologist/ nurse, informing them of the need to make these changes to your warfarin regime before you stop your warfarin.

If you do not have your surgery for whatever reason, please re-commence your usual dose of warfarin as soon as possible.

Please bring your anticoagulant book with you to the hospital.

You will be instructed about your warfarin dosage whilst in hospital.

If you are worried or wish to ask any questions about this information, please contact the Oculoplastic specialist nurse on (0161) 276 5608.

To speak to Ward 55 staff please contact the main hospital switchboard on: (0161) 276 1234, available 24 hours a day.