

Author, date	Systematic review/ meta-analysis or both?	Primary objective same as current review? If not, what was primary objective?	Reason for inclusion in current review	Randomised studies included? How many?	Non-randomised studies included? How many?	No. of studies relevant to current review : specify
Anderson 2008 ⁷⁴	Both	No Efficacy of warfarin in preventing systemic embolism in patients with AF	Systematic review: a few included studies compared effectiveness of ACT vs ACT + APT	Yes 15	No	2 SPAF III ⁴³ AFASAK II ⁴²
Garwood and Corbett 2008 ⁷⁵	Systematic review only	No Evaluate data addressing use of anticoagulation in elderly patients with AF, in particular those at risk of falls	Systematic review: a few included studies compared effectiveness of ACT vs ACT + APT	Yes 8	No	2 SPAF III ⁴³ AFASAK II ⁴²
Hart 2007 ²⁰	Both	No Efficacy and safety of antithrombotic agents for stroke prevention in patients with AF	Systematic review: a few included studies compared effectiveness of ACT vs ACT + APT	Yes 29	No	7 SPAF III ⁴³ AFASAK II ⁴² FFAACs ⁴¹ NASPEAF ³⁹ PETRO ⁷³ SPORTIF III ⁶⁴ and V ⁶⁵
Hughes 2007 ⁷⁶	Systematic review only	No Risk factors of anticoagulation related bleeding complications in patients with AF	Systematic review: one included study reported bleeding events in patients with AF on ACT + APT	No	Yes 1	1 Shireman 2004 ⁶⁰
Dentali 2007 ⁷⁷	Both	No Therapeutic benefits of adding aspirin to ACT in patients receiving ACT therapy	Systematic review: included studies reported events in patients on ACT + APT vs those on ACT alone Only two studies on patients with AF	Yes 10	No	2 AFASAK II ⁴² FFAACs

Population	Intervention	Comparison	Outcomes	Meta-analysis done? Did meta-analysis include studies relevant to our review?	Comments
Patients with AF/atrial flutter	Warfarin INR \geq 2.0	Various: placebo, aspirin, aspirin + clopidogrel, warfarin + aspirin	Systemic embolism, bleeding	Yes SPAF III ⁴³ AFASAK II ⁴²	Search date: 2007 RCTs only Warfarin effectiveness in preventing systemic embolism/bleeding in non-valvular AF Included SPAF III, ⁴³ AFASAK II ⁴²
Patients with AF >65 years of age	Warfarin INR target not specified	Warfarin \pm aspirin alone, placebo	ICH	No	Search date: 2007 RCTs only Safety (bleeding) of ACT Included SPAF III, ⁴³ AFASAK II ⁴² Reads like a narrative review No methods section
Patients with non-valvular AF on long-term antithrombotic agents	ACT	Various: placebo, aspirin, aspirin + clopidogrel, warfarin + aspirin	Stroke	Yes AFASAK II ⁴² NASPEAF	Search date: 2007 RCTs only Stroke prevention in non-valvular AF Included SPAF III, ⁴³ AFASAK II, ⁴² FFAACS, ⁴¹ NASPEAF, ³⁹ PETRO, ⁷³ and SPORTIF III ⁶⁴ and V ⁶⁵
Patients with AF receiving long-term (>4 weeks) ACT	ACT INR \geq 2.0	Various: placebo, aspirin, aspirin + clopidogrel, warfarin + aspirin	Patient characteristics of those experiencing a bleeding event on ACT	No	No search date Risk factor identification study. Study selection on basis of occurrence/or not of an event, or presence/absence of a risk factor These are case-control studies Does not aim to compare ACT + APT vs ACT alone
Adult patients receiving ACT No mention of AF, however, the study although identified 2 out of 10 studies with patients on AF	ACT	ACT + aspirin	Arterial TE, mortality, major bleeding	Yes AFASAK II ⁴² FFAACS	Search date: 2005 RCTs only ACT + APT vs ACT alone in patients with cardiovascular risk (wider population than AF) Include mechanical valves Included AFASAK II, ⁴² FFAACS – no separate analysis for these

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Cooper 2006 ⁷⁸	Both	No Identify stroke prevention treatments for AF	Systematic review: included studies reported events in patients with AF on ACT + APT vs ACT alone	Yes 20	No	2 SPAF III ⁴³ AFASAK II ⁴²
Lip and Edwards 2006 ⁷⁹	Both	No Compared effectiveness of aspirin, warfarin, and ximelagatran as thromboprophylaxis in patients with non-valvular AF	Systematic review: included studies reported events in patients with AF on ACT + APT vs ACT alone	Yes 13	No	2 SPAF III ⁴³ AFASAK II ⁴²
Larson and Fisher 2004 ⁸⁰	Both	No Efficacy and safety of adjusted-dose ACT + aspirin vs adjusted-dose ACT alone	Systematic review: a few included studies in patients with AF compared effectiveness of ACT + APT vs ACT alone Not all studies patients with AF	Yes 9	No	1 FFAACs ⁴¹
Lip 2004 ⁸¹	Both	No Effects of preventative ACT and APT in patients with AF with/ without prior stroke or transient ischaemic attack	Review of systematic reviews that included studies comparing ACT + APT vs ACT alone	Yes	No	2 SPAF III ⁴³ AFASAK II ⁴²
McNamara 2003 ⁸²	Systematic review only	No Efficacy of rate and rhythm control and antithrombotic therapies in patients with AF	Systematic review: patients with AF; a few included studies compared effectiveness of ACT + APT vs ACT alone	Yes 16 (relevant for AF and antithrombotic therapy)	No	2 SPAF III ⁴³ AFASAK II ⁴²
Perret-Guillaume and Wahl 2003 ⁸³	Systematic review only	No Efficacy of low intensity/mini-/ low-dose ACT for prevention of TE in patients with AF	Systematic review: patients with AF; a few included studies compared effectiveness of ACT + APT vs ACT alone	Yes 4	No	2 SPAF III ⁴³ AFASAK II ⁴²

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Patients with non-rheumatic AF on long-term antithrombotic therapy	Warfarin	Various: Warfarin, ximelagatran, or aspirin alone Warfarin or ximelagatran + aspirin	Ischaemic stroke, major/minor bleeding	Yes No – mixed-treatment comparison	Search date: 2005 RCTs only Stroke prevention in non-rheumatic AF Included AFASAK II ⁴² and SPAF III ⁴³ Extensive multiple treatment comparison
Patients with non-valvular AF on ACT + APT vs ACT alone	Warfarin Ximelagatran	Various: Warfarin or ximelagatran alone Warfarin or ximelagatran + aspirin	Ischaemic stroke, mortality, major/minor bleeding	Yes SPAF III ⁴³ AFASAK II ⁴²	Search date: 2005 RCTs only Stroke prevention in non-valvular AF Included AFASAK II ⁴² and SPAF III ⁴³ No separate analysis for ACT + APT vs ACT alone
Adult patients receiving ACT + aspirin No mention of AF- the systematic review identified 1 out of 9 studies with patients on AF	Warfarin INR 2.0–3.0	Warfarin (INR 2.0–3.0) + aspirin	TEs, mortality, major/minor bleeding	Yes FFAACs ⁴¹ (only one relevant study with patients with AF)	Search date: 2003 RCTs only ACT + aspirin vs ACT only (population wider than just AF) Included FFAACS ⁴¹
Patients with AF with/without prior stroke or transient ischaemic attack on ACT ± APT	Warfarin	Warfarin + aspirin	Stroke, bleeding	No	Search date: 2003 RCTs + systematic reviews Narrative reporting of other evidence sources Included SPAF III ⁴³ and AFASAK II ⁴²
Adult patients with non-post operative AF	Warfarin	Warfarin + aspirin	Stroke, bleeding	No	Search date: 1998 RCTs only Effectiveness of all therapies Included AFASAK II ⁴² and SPAF III; ⁴³ poor linking of studies to data
Non-rheumatic patients with AF	Mini-dose, low dose, low-intensity ACT	In two studies, ACT + APT Others, ACT alone	Ischaemic stroke, systemic embolism, all TEs, vascular death	No	Search date: 2002 RCTs only Warfarin dosing in AF Included AFASAK II ⁴² and SPAF III ⁴³ – limited separate analysis for the studies

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Sanchez-Pena and Lechat 2002 ⁸⁴	Both	No Evaluate efficacy of antithrombotic therapies in high-risk (of TEs) patients with AF	Systematic review: patients with AF; few included studies compared effectiveness of ACT + APT vs ACT alone	Yes 3	No	3 SPAF III ⁴³ AFASAK II ⁴² FFAACS
Segal 2000 ⁸⁵	Both	No Summarises evidence regarding prevention of TE in patients with AF	Systematic review: patients with AF; few included studies compared effectiveness of ACT + APT vs ACT alone	Yes 11	No	2 SPAF III ⁴³ AFASAK II ⁴²
Aronow 1999 ⁸⁶	Systematic review only	No Review management of older people with AF	Systematic review: patients with AF; a few included studies compared effectiveness of ACT + APT vs ACT alone	Yes	No	2 SPAF III ⁴³ AFASAK II ⁴²
Ezekowitz and Levine 1999 ⁸⁷	Systematic review only	No Evaluate evidence supporting use of warfarin and/or aspirin for stroke prevention in patients with AF	Systematic review: patients with AF; a few included studies compared effectiveness of ACT + APT vs ACT alone	Yes 5	No	1 SPAF III ⁴³
Fera and Giovannini 1999 ⁸⁸	Systematic review only	No Effect of antithrombotic therapy on stroke risk in patients with AF	Systematic review: patients with AF; few included studies compared effectiveness of ACT + APT vs ACT alone	Yes	No	2 SPAF III ⁴³ AFASAK II ⁴²
Loewen 1998 ⁸⁹	Systematic review only	No Efficacy of warfarin + aspirin compared with either agent alone	Systematic review: a few included studies on AF compared effectiveness of ACT + APT vs ACT alone	Yes 5	Yes 11	One RCT SPAF III ⁴³
Howard and Duncan 1997 ⁹⁰	Systematic review only	No Review of trials evaluating warfarin for primary stroke prophylaxis in non-valvular AF to discuss relative benefits and risks of warfarin + aspirin	Systematic review: patients with AF; included studies compared effectiveness of ACT + APT vs ACT alone	Yes 6	No	2 SPAF III ⁴³ AFASAK II ⁴²

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Patients with AF on antithrombotic therapy	ACT alone	Various: ACT alone, APT alone, ACT + APT	Stroke, bleeding	Yes SPAF III ⁴³ AFASAK II ⁴² FFAACs	Search date: 2000 RCTs only Included SPAF III, ⁴³ AFASAK II ⁴² and FFAACS ⁴¹
Studies addressing management of AF	ACT alone	Various: ACT alone, APT alone, ACT + APT	Stroke, major bleeding, deaths	Yes SPAF III, ⁴³ AFASAK II ⁴²	Search date: 1997 RCTs only Prevention of TE in AF Meta-analysis included SPAF III ⁴³ and AFASAK II ⁴²
Patients with AF >60 years with any type of management	ACT	ACT + APT	Stroke, systemic TE	No	Search date: 1999 RCTs only Patients with AF Included AFASAK II ⁴² and SPAF III ⁴³ Study selection unclear
Patients with AF on antithrombotic therapy	ACT alone	Various: Warfarin or aspirin alone, warfarin + aspirin, or placebo	Ischaemic stroke	No	Search date: 1999 RCTs only Prevention of stroke in AF Included SPAF III, ⁴³ limited separate analysis
Patients with AF on antithrombotic therapy	ACT alone	Various: ACT alone, APT alone, ACT + APT	Stroke, systemic TE	No	No search date Unclear if review systematic RCTs only Included SPAF III ⁴³
Patients on combination warfarin + aspirin or either agent alone	Warfarin	Various: Warfarin or aspirin alone Warfarin + aspirin	TEs, bleeding	No	Search date: 1998 RCTs + non RCTs Warfarin + aspirin in AF Included SPAF III, ⁴³ limited separate analysis
Patients with AF on antithrombotic therapy	Warfarin	Various: Warfarin or aspirin alone Warfarin + aspirin	Stroke, systemic TE	No	Search date: 1997 RCTs only Stroke prevention in non-valvular AF Included SPAF III, ⁴³ limited separate analysis