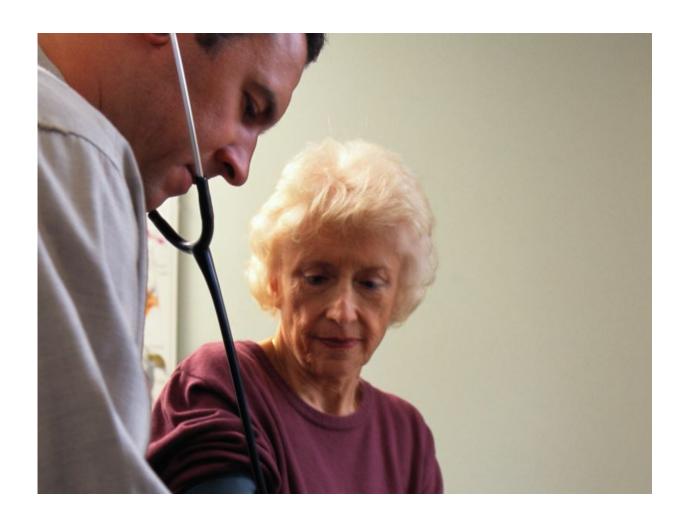


Physician-perceived frailty tied to warfarin discontinuation

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(HealthDay)—Physician-perceived frailty and low life expectancy are



the main reasons for warfarin discontinuation in elderly patients, according to a study published online July 29 in the *Journal of Thrombosis and Haemostasis*.

Giulia Bertozzo, M.D., from the University of Padua in Italy, and colleagues assessed data from very elderly non-valvular atrial fibrillation (NVAF) <u>patients</u> to examine the reason for warfarin discontinuation and analyze data on subsequent antithrombotic therapy and subsequent mortality, ischemic, and bleeding events. Patients in the study were at least 80 years old and started warfarin after NVAF diagnosis.

The researchers found that over five years, 148 of 798 patients discontinued warfarin. Thromboembolic and major bleeding events were significantly higher and time in therapeutic range (TTR) was significantly lower in patients who discontinued warfarin despite similar CHA₂DS₂-VASc score. Vascular disease (hazard ratio [HR], 2.5), being 85 years of age or older (HR, 1.4), TTR

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