

2018

# Decreasing Unnecessary Pharmacy Cost in the Cath Lab


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# Decreasing Unnecessary Pharmacy Cost in the Cath Lab

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## Plan

AngioMax is a single dose heparin alternative introduced in 2002 that is used in cardiac patients undergoing percutaneous intervention (PCI). Bivalirudin and heparin are both acceptable options according to current ACA/AHA guidelines. Bivalirudin costs \$377 per dose; Heparin is less than \$15 per dose. Noting practice variation, the Cath Lab set out to eliminate unnecessary pharmacy cost for PCI patients by:

- Using current literature to inform clinical care
- Standardizing practice
- Using data to track and guide implementation

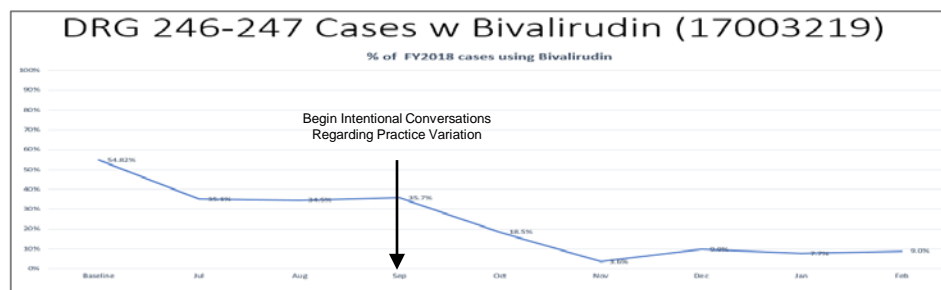
## Do

- Explore variation in utilization of Bivalirudin and Heparin in PCI cases
- Share lit review findings: Given the significant cost difference between bivalirudin and heparin, heparin should be the preferred agent for STEMI PCI except in patients at extreme risk of bleeding.
- Engage Cath Lab leadership and Interventional Cardiology providers to evaluate current practice
- Track monthly utilization and use data to inform implementation plans

## Team Members

- Scott Scepianiak, RN, CEN -- Cardiac Cath Lab
- Phil Martin, MBA BSN RN -- Section Director
- Kristi Patterson, BSN RN, CPHQ – PIVA
- Dr. Dan Tiede – Cardiology

## Study



**Summer 2017**

- Cath lab begins exploring the variation in blood thinners used during PCI & current best practices

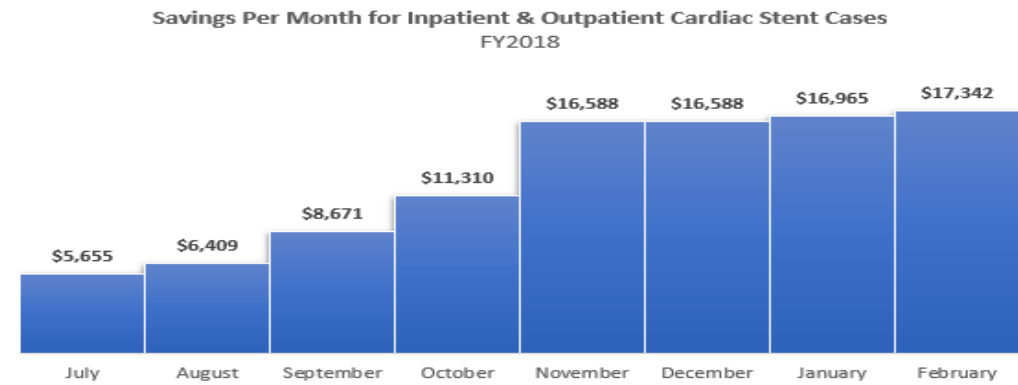
**Early Fall 2017**

- Cath Lab staff engages Interventional Cardiology, provides group and 1:1 education

**October 2017**

- Monthly reporting data used to evaluate implementation and identify potential areas of opportunity

**Cost Savings** due to decreased use of AngioMax for IP and OP PCI in the first 8 months of implementation: **>\$100,000**



## Act

- Generate discussion by sharing data demonstrating the variation in AngioMax use
- Use adaptive leadership skills to spread practice change throughout Interventional Cardiology
- Share monthly AngioMax utilization with the Cath Lab Team and Interventional Cardiology



## References

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Secemsky, E., & Banglaore, S. (2016, November 9). Use and Effectiveness of Bivalirudin Versus Unfractionated Heparin for Percutaneous Coronary Intervention Among Patients with ST-Segment Elevation Myocardial Infraction in the United States. *American College of Cardiology: Cardiovascular Interventions*, 9(23), 2376-2386.