

TABLE 2.14 Common Anticoagulant Medications							
Drug	ASA (81 mg)	ASA (325 mg)	Clopidogrel (Plavix)	Coumadin (Warfarin)	Dabigatran (Pradaxa)	Rivaroxaban (Xarelto)	Apixaban (Eliquis)
Test to determine coagulation status	Serum thrombin time, bleeding time	Serum thrombin time, bleeding time	Serum thrombin time, bleeding time	INR	No testing needed	No testing needed	No testing needed
Mechanism of action	Inhibiting platelet generation of thromboxane A2 results in inhibition of thrombus formation	Inhibiting platelet generation of thromboxane A2 results in inhibition of thrombus formation	Inhibits platelet aggregation and activation	Inhibits production of vitamin K–dependent clotting factors (II, VII, IX, and X)	Direct thrombin inhibitor	Factor Xa inhibitor	Factor Xa inhibitor
Dietary restrictions	None	None	None	Vitamin K	None	None	None
Dosing difficulty	None	None	None	Difficult	Reduce dose CrCl <30	Reduction CrCl <50 dosing different for different indications	Reduction CrCl <50 dosing different for different indications
Need for reduction/interruption	Usually not recommended	Case specific	Case Specific, usually not recommended can precipitate significant medical clotting issues	Case Specific, usually not recommended can precipitate significant medical clotting issues	Yes, MD Consult, usually 48–72 hrs.	Yes, MD Consult	Yes, MD Consult
Days of discontinuation prior to procedures	Not required in most cases, platelet function inhibited 10–14 days	10 days or more, MD Consult	MD consult especially if given with ASA	MD Consult, usually 5 days or more	Yes, usually 48–72 hours	Yes, usually 48–72 hours	Yes, usually 48–72 hours
Restarting Medication	If discontinued, after hemostasis	If discontinued, after hemostasis	If discontinued, dependent on MD recommendation	If discontinued, dependent on MD recommendation	Usually 24–48 hours and discussion with MD	Usually 24–48 hours and discussion with MD	Usually 24–48 hours and discussion with MD