

With the growing number of people in the community requiring anti-coagulation support using the traditional 'blood thinning' agent Warfarin and the requirement for patients to be controlled in the effective therapeutic window of the drug, the importance of controlling the instruments and devices used to provision the daily dose cannot be underestimated.

Following the publication in *Clinical Chemistry* Sept. 2010, "Simplified Method for International Normalized Ratio (INR) Derivation Based on the Prothrombin Time/INR Line: An International study", a set of 5 plasmas for calibration of these instruments and devices has been made available under the trade name of 'Poller Calibrants'.

We are pleased to announce the availability of:

HB-4423-FG, ECAA CoaguCheck INR QC Kit, a product designed to assess the adequate control and calibration of point-of-care monitors, and

HB-4451-FG, ECAA PT/INR Line Plasma Set, a product designed to assess the adequate performance and calibration of laboratory instrumentation

Two articles, the first from *Clinical Chemistry*, describing the PT/INR Line and the second from *Thrombosis and Haemostasis* 103.5/2010 describing the calibration procedure applicable to CoaguCheck™ is enclosed as well as Instructions for Use for the two products.

For further information please contact SMS Gruppen.

