

PBS Post Market  
Department of Health and Ageing  
MDP 900  
GPO Box 9848  
CANBERRA ACT 2601

**Submission re use of Pradaxa (dabigatran) as treatment for Atrial Fibrillation**

1. I developed Atrial Fibrillation in August 2010. I was treated with Warfarin until August 2011.
2. I began Pradaxa 150mg b.d. as part of the start-up programme.
3. I have had no difficulties at all with the Pradaxa (dabigatran).
4. My health has been very much better since beginning the Pradaxa (dabigatran). I am not tired all the time as I was with the Warfarin. Life has become much better.
5. I am also much better off without all the blood tests.
6. My understanding, on starting the Pradaxa (dabigatran) was that it would be on PBS before my year was finished, i.e. 6<sup>th</sup> August 2012.
7. I am an old-age pensioner and there is no way I can possibly afford to pay \$150 per month for the Pradaxa (dabigatran).
8. My year of taking Warfarin was not really a success. My blood test results were erratic, although I did obey the dietary restrictions.
9. The original plan for the Atrial Fibrillation was that an "aversion" would be performed. I could not get my blood stable for one month to allow that to happen.
10. I understand the difficulties that present in introducing new drugs to the PBS.
11. The recent blood tests I have had have all been satisfactory.
12. The Pradaxa (dabigatran) has been very helpful for me.

[REDACTED]

1<sup>st</sup> February 2012