

Argatroban Assay now available

Argatroban is a direct thrombin inhibitor (DTI) used as an anticoagulant in patients with confirmed or suspected Heparin Induced Thrombocytopenia (HIT)

Traditionally this drug has been monitored using APTT ratio, however differences in reagent sensitivities to the drug has proved this method to be inaccurate. Recent BSH guidelines* have recommended using a calibrated Anti-FIIa assay to monitor Argatroban.

Additionally, there is a known prolongation of prothrombin time whilst on Argatroban and specific monitoring may be necessary when commencing warfarin treatment or when a patient has a prolonged baseline APTT.

Daily measurement using a calibrated assay overcomes many limitations of APTT and also provides reassurance that dosing is correct.

Please see <https://qehbpathology.uk/test-database/item/argatroban> or contact the coagulation laboratory coagulationqehb@nhs.net or 0121 371 5988 for further information.

*Measurement of heparin, direct oral anti-coagulants and other non-coumarin anti-coagulants and their effects on haemostasis assays: A British Society for Haematology Guideline 2024