CHA2DS2-VASc for Stroke Risk in Atrial Fibrillation

The CHA$_2$DS$_2$-VAS$_c$ score is used to assess patient risk of stroke with atrial fibrillation. Using this clinical scoring tool, caregivers are able to assess whether or not anticoagulation is indicated in patients. The CHA$_2$DS$_2$-VAS$_c$ score assigns points based on criteria including patient history regarding CHF, Hypertension, Age greater than 75, Diabetes, Stroke, Vascular Disease, Age between 65-75, and Sex.

PLAY PICMONIC

CHF (+1)
CHF Heart-balloon

If the patient has a history of congestive heart failure, their score has 1 point added.

Hypertension (+1)
Hiker-BP

1 point is added to the patient's score if they have a history of hypertension.

Age 75 + (+2)
75+ with old grey hair

Patients over 75 years old have 2 points added to their cumulative score.

Diabetes (+1)
Dyed-bead-pancreas

1 point is added to the CHA2DS2-VASC score if the patient has diabetes.

Stroke or TIA or Thromboembolism History (+2)
Stroke Hx

If the patient has had a stroke, TIA (transient ischemic attack), or has a history of thromboembolism in the past, they are given a score has 2 points added.

Vascular Disease (+1)
Vessels Diseased

A history of vascular disease, such as peripheral artery disease, myocardial infarction, or aortic plaque warrants adding 1 point to the patient's score.

Age 65-75 Years (+1)
65 to 75 old grey hair

Those aged between 65 to 75 years old have 1 point added to their score.

Sex Female (+1)
Female Sex-symbol

Females have 1 point added to their score.

Interpretation

0 = No Anticoagulation
No Anticoagulation with 0

When the patient a score of 0, anticoagulation is not indicated.

1 = Consider Anticoagulation
Consider Anticoagulation with 1

If the patient with atrial fibrillation scores 1 on their CHA2DS2-VASc, the healthcare provider should consider anticoagulation therapy in the patient.

2 = Anticoagulation
Anticoagulation with 2

If the patient scores 2 or above on the the CHA2DS2-VASc clinical calculator, anticoagulation is recommended.