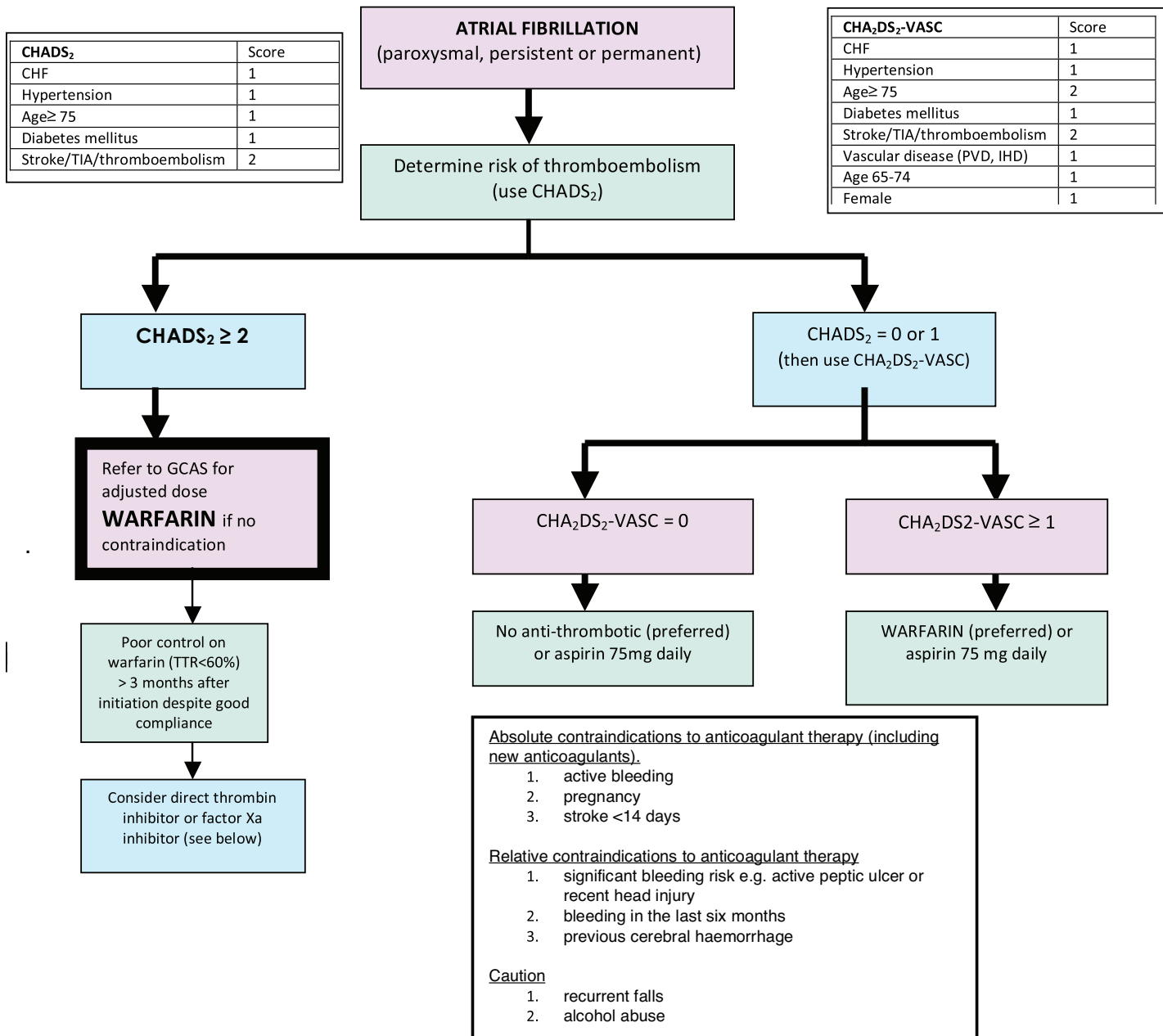


PREVENTION OF THROMBOEMBOLISM



COMBINED WARFARIN AND ANTI-PLATELET THERAPY

Adding aspirin to warfarin therapy does not reduce the risk of stroke but substantially increases the risk of bleeding. After PCI, short term combined double or triple therapy is used according to cardiologist advice.

NEW ANTICOAGULANTS (DIRECT THROMBIN AND FACTOR Xa INHIBITORS)

- Warfarin is still the anticoagulant of choice.
- New anticoagulants, e.g. dabigatran, should only be considered in patients at high risk of stroke who are poorly controlled on warfarin (TTR < 60%), despite good compliance. Glasgow and Clyde Anticoagulation service will identify these patients and ask the GP to consider one of the new anti-coagulants.