

# Treatment pathways of oral anticoagulants for stroke prevention in atrial fibrillation patients – Patterns from multiple countries

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## INTRO:

Gradual introduction of non-vitamin K antagonist oral anticoagulants (NOACs) provided new treatment options for stroke prevention of atrial fibrillation (SPAF). The aim is to characterize the treatment pathways for SPAF in a real world setting across a network of databases.

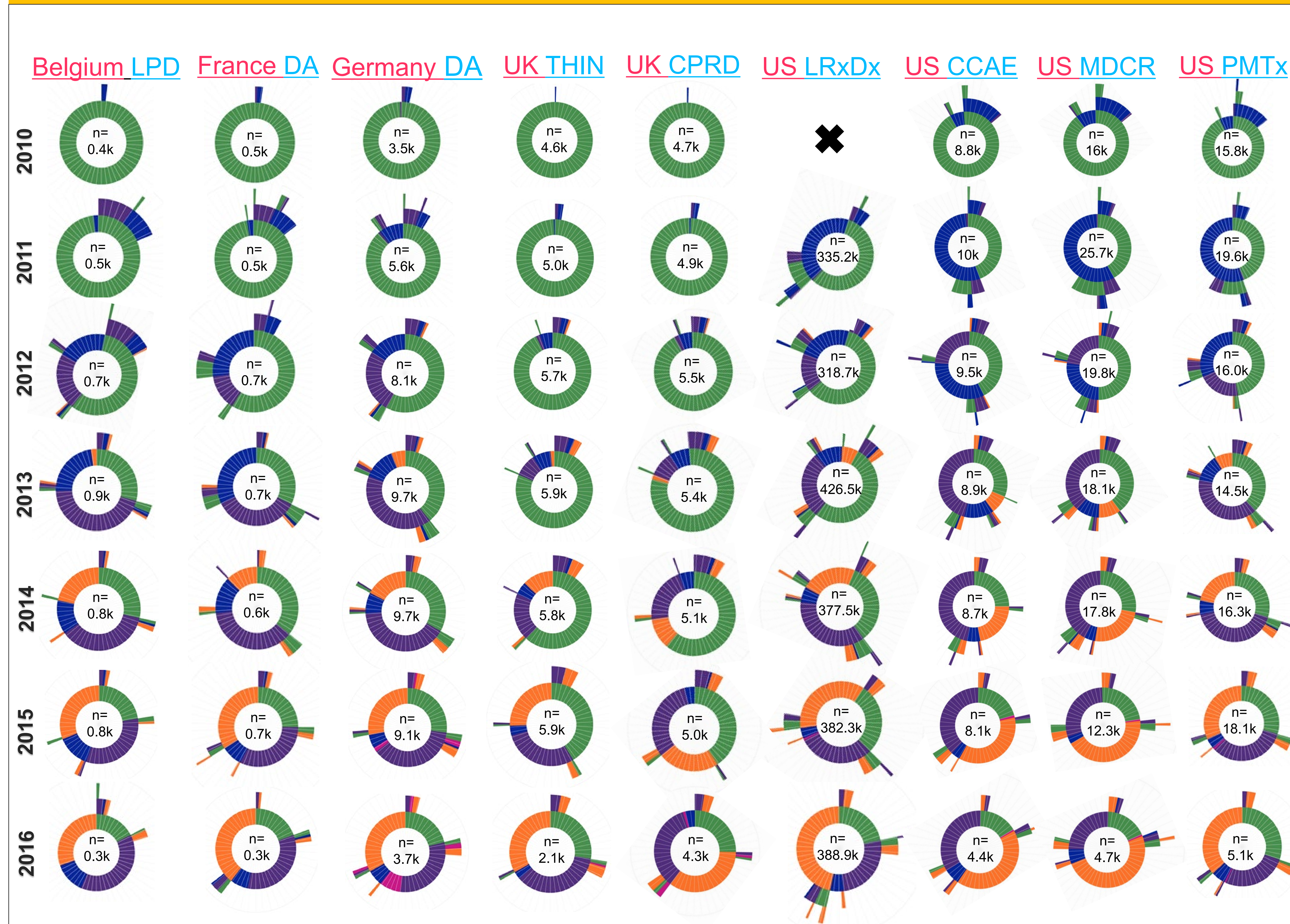
## METHODS

- This retrospective cohort study analyzed multiple data sources (Belgium, France, Germany, UK and US) using an adaptation of the OHDSI Treatment Pathway Tool.
- Patients aged  $\geq 18$  years with a diagnosis of AF and first prescription of oral anticoagulants (OACs) with one year look back period from 2010 through 2016 were included.
- Sequence of treatments changes are presented as sunburst graphs with a 2-year follow-up after the index date.

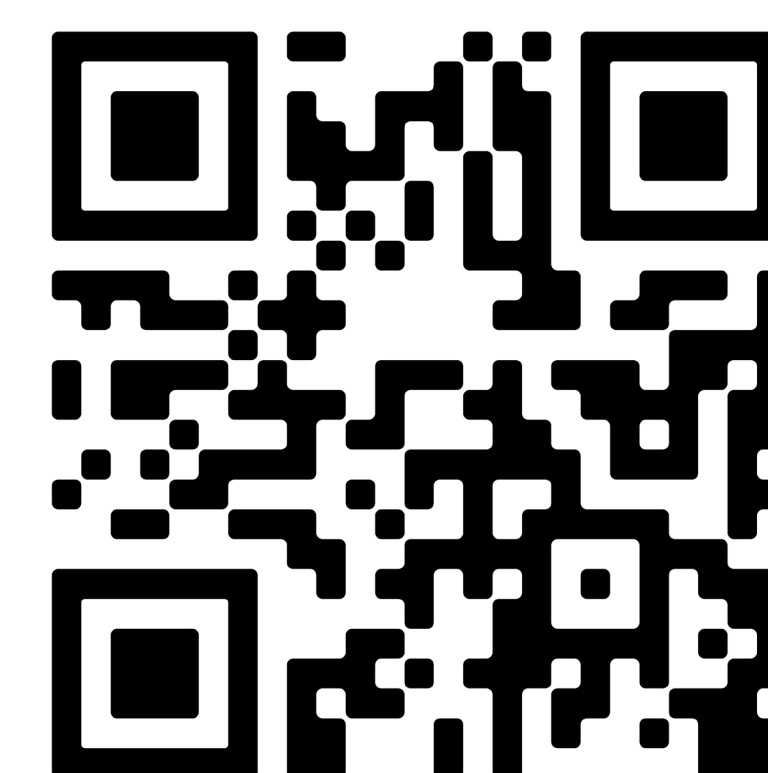
## RESULTS

- More than 3.0 million patients were analyzed across data sources from five countries in which the majority of patients were aged 65 and over.
- Treatment pathways (Figure) from multiple countries reflect the uptake of NOACs and clinical practice in the respective countries.
- Compared to the European countries, the uptake of NOACs was fastest in US and also had more switchers within two years of follow-up.
- The uptake of NOACs was slowest in UK relative to other countries. Early uptake of edoxaban is seen in Germany compared to other countries.
- Rivaroxaban seems to be the leading treatment choice for SPAF since 2013 and shared by Apixaban from 2015 onwards.

# The majority of AF patients currently receive apixaban and rivaroxaban as the first line of treatment for SPAF



**Figure. Treatment pathway for new users of OACs within two years of follow-up in AF patients by index year of treatment.** It depicts proportions of drug used for treatment and sequences between lines of treatment. LPD – Longitudinal Patient Database; CCAE – MarketScan Commercial Claims and Encounters; CPRD – Clinical Practice Research Datalink; DA – Disease Analyzer; LRxDx – Longitudinal Prescription Diagnosis database; THIN – The Health Improvement Network; MDCR – Medicare; PMTx – Pharmetrics



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## Cohort age and Gender distribution

