Anti-inflammatory Therapy for Osteoarthritis

Presence of High Risk Criteria (H.R.C.)

Recent peptic ulcer, gastric outlet obstruction, gastrointestinal bleeding (H.R.C. - a)

Conventional NSAID

Use of Anticoagulant or Bleeding Disorder (H.R.C. – c, d)

Sub-optimal response or intolerant of retrials with different NSAID or COXIB

Seek Specialist Opinion

YES

NO

YES

NO

COXIB

NSAID & G.P.A.¹

Sub-optimal response or intolerant of retrials with different drugs in same class

High Risk Criteria (H.R.C.)

a) previous peptic ulcer, gastric outlet obstruction, gastrointestinal bleeding
b) elderly (more than 65 years of age)
c) concurrent warfarin therapy
d) bleeding disorders
e) concurrent prednisone therapy at doses greater than 5mg / day for more than 2 weeks
f) serious concomitant diseases such as congestive heart failure or chronic renal failure that compromise gastrointestinal blood flow

¹ G.P.A. – gastro-protective agent