On 18 October 2012, the Committee for Medicinal Products for Human Use (CHMP) adopted a positive opinion recommending a variation to the terms of the marketing authorisation for the medicinal product Xarelto 15 and 20 mg strengths. The marketing authorisation holder for this medicinal product is Bayer Pharma AG. They may request a re-examination of the CHMP opinion, provided that they notify the European Medicines Agency in writing of their intention within 15 days of receipt of the opinion.

The CHMP adopted a new indication as follows:
Treatment of deep vein thrombosis (DVT) and pulmonary embolism (PE), and prevention of recurrent DVT and PE in adults. (See section 4.4 for haemodynamically unstable PE patients.)

The CHMP adopted new contraindications (for 15 mg and 20 mg) as follows:
Lesion or condition at significant risk of major bleeding such as current or recent gastrointestinal ulceration, presence of malignant neoplasms at high risk of bleeding, recent brain or spinal injury, recent brain, spinal or ophthalmic surgery, recent intracranial haemorrhage, known or suspected oesophageal varices, arteriovenous malformations, vascular aneurysms or major intraspinal or intracerebral vascular abnormalities.

Concomitant treatment with any other anticoagulant agent e.g. unfractionated heparin (UFH), low molecular weight heparins (enoxaparin, dalteparin, etc.), heparin derivatives (fondaparinux, etc.), oral anticoagulants (warfarin, apixaban, dabigatran, etc.) except under the circumstances of switching therapy to or from rivaroxaban (see section 4.2) or when UFH is given at doses necessary to maintain a patent central venous or arterial catheter.

Detailed conditions for the use of this product will be described in the updated summary of product characteristics (SmPC), which will be published in the revised European public assessment report (EPAR), and will be available in all official European Union languages after the variation to the marketing authorisation has been granted by the European Commission.
For information, the full indication(s) for Xarelto 15mg and 20mg will be as follows:

Prevention of stroke and systemic embolism in adult patients with non-valvular atrial fibrillation with one or more risk factors, such as congestive heart failure, hypertension, age ≥ 75 years, diabetes mellitus, prior stroke or transient ischaemic attack.

**Treatment of deep vein thrombosis (DVT) and pulmonary embolism (PE), and prevention of recurrent DVT and PE in adults. (See section 4.4 for haemodynamically unstable PE patients.)**

For information, the full contraindications for Xarelto 15mg and 20mg will be as follows:

Hypersensitivity to the active substance or to any of the excipients listed in section 6.1.

Clinically significant active bleeding.

**Lesion or condition at significant risk of major bleeding such as current or recent gastrointestinal ulceration, presence of malignant neoplasms at high risk of bleeding, recent brain or spinal injury, recent brain, spinal or ophthalmic surgery, recent intracranial haemorrhage, known or suspected oesophageal varices, arteriovenous malformations, vascular aneurysms or major intraspinal or intracerebral vascular abnormalities.**

**Concomitant treatment with any other anticoagulant agent e.g. unfractionated heparin (UFH), low molecular weight heparins (enoxaparin, dalteparin, etc.), heparin derivatives (fondaparinux, etc.), oral anticoagulants (warfarin, apixaban, dabigatran, etc.) except under the circumstances of switching therapy to or from rivaroxaban (see section 4.2) or when UFH is given at doses necessary to maintain a patent central venous or arterial catheter.**

Hepatic disease associated with coagulopathy and clinically relevant bleeding risk including cirrhotic patients with Child Pugh B and C (see section 5.2).

Pregnancy and breast feeding (see section 4.6).

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2 The text in bold represents the new or the amended indication.
3 The text in bold represents the new or the amended contraindication.