

Westcliffe Medical Practice
ShIPLEY

Westcliffe Cardiology Service

Management of Atrial Fibrillation in Primary Care

Dr Matthew Fay

Bradford Airedale tPCT

- Who should be doing what?
 - The PCT
 - Primary Care
 - Intermediate Care

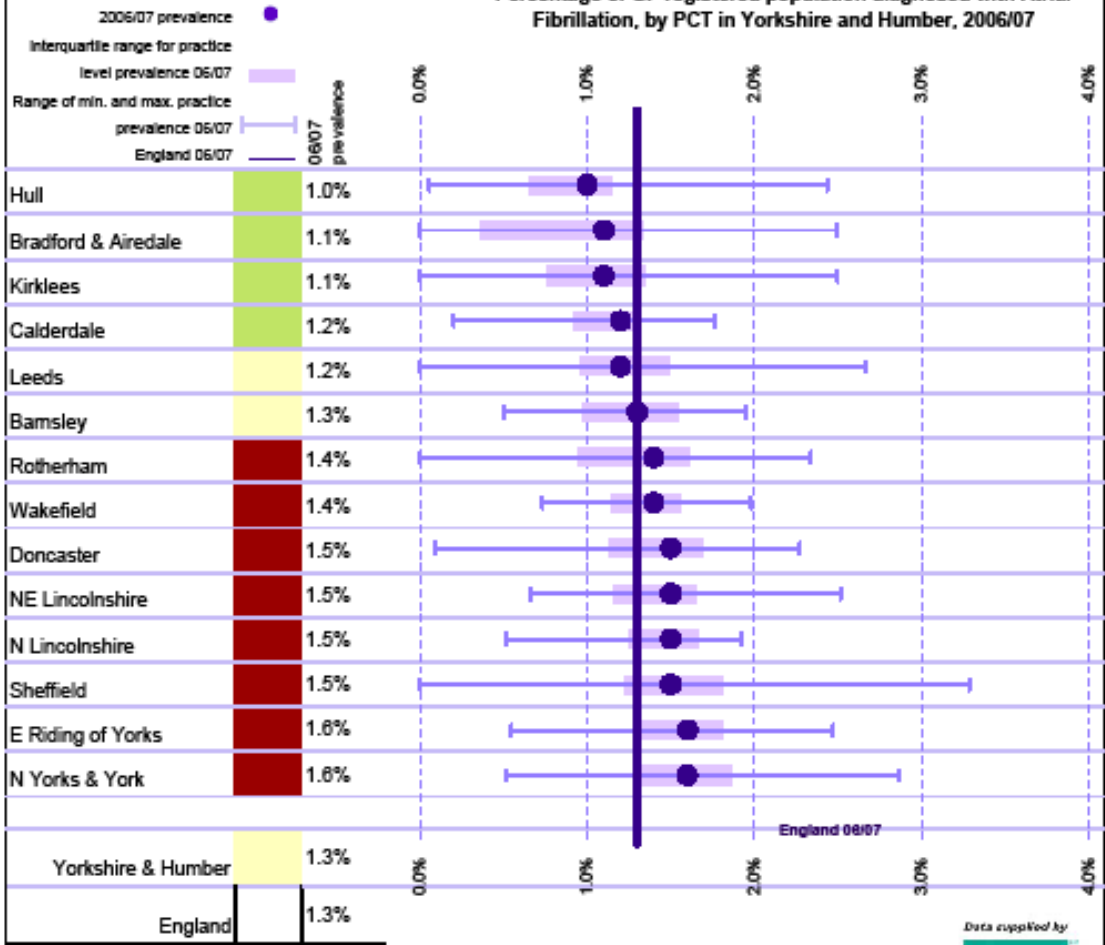
What should the PCT do?

- Increasing awareness of AF in the population
- Encouraging people to attend for health checks to ensure that this condition has not developed asymptotically.
- Screening of the over 65 population should be encouraged with a local incentive scheme.

Primary Care for Atrial Fibrillation (QOF 2006/07)



Percentage of GP registered population diagnosed with Atrial Fibrillation, by PCT in Yorkshire and Humber, 2006/07



Position relative to England

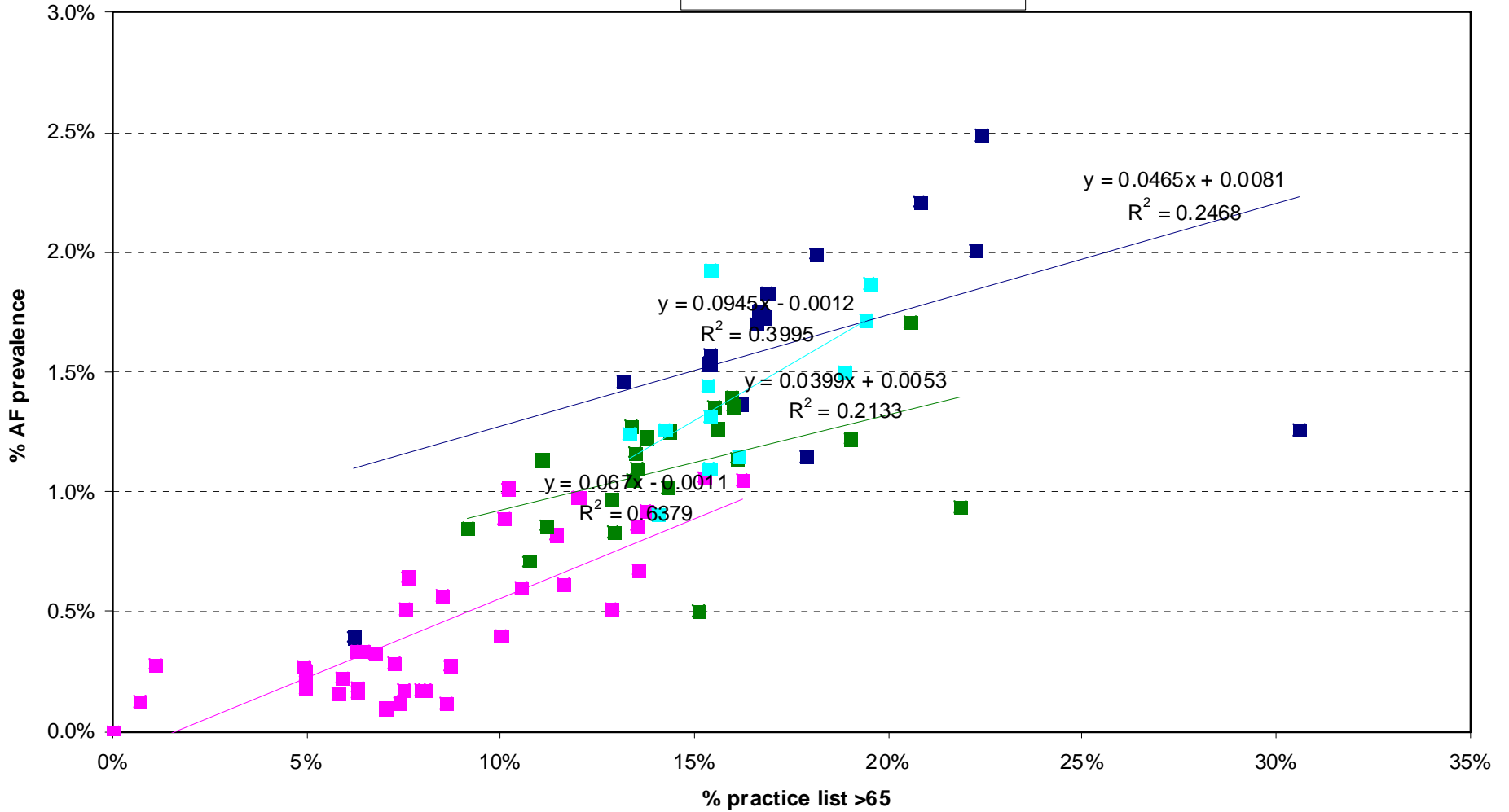
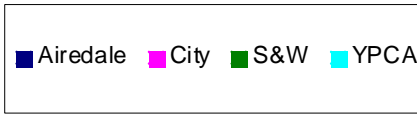
- Significantly higher than England average
- Not significantly different
- Significantly lower than England average

As Atrial Fibrillation prevalence was introduced to the QOF in 2006/07, the direction of travel has not been presented.

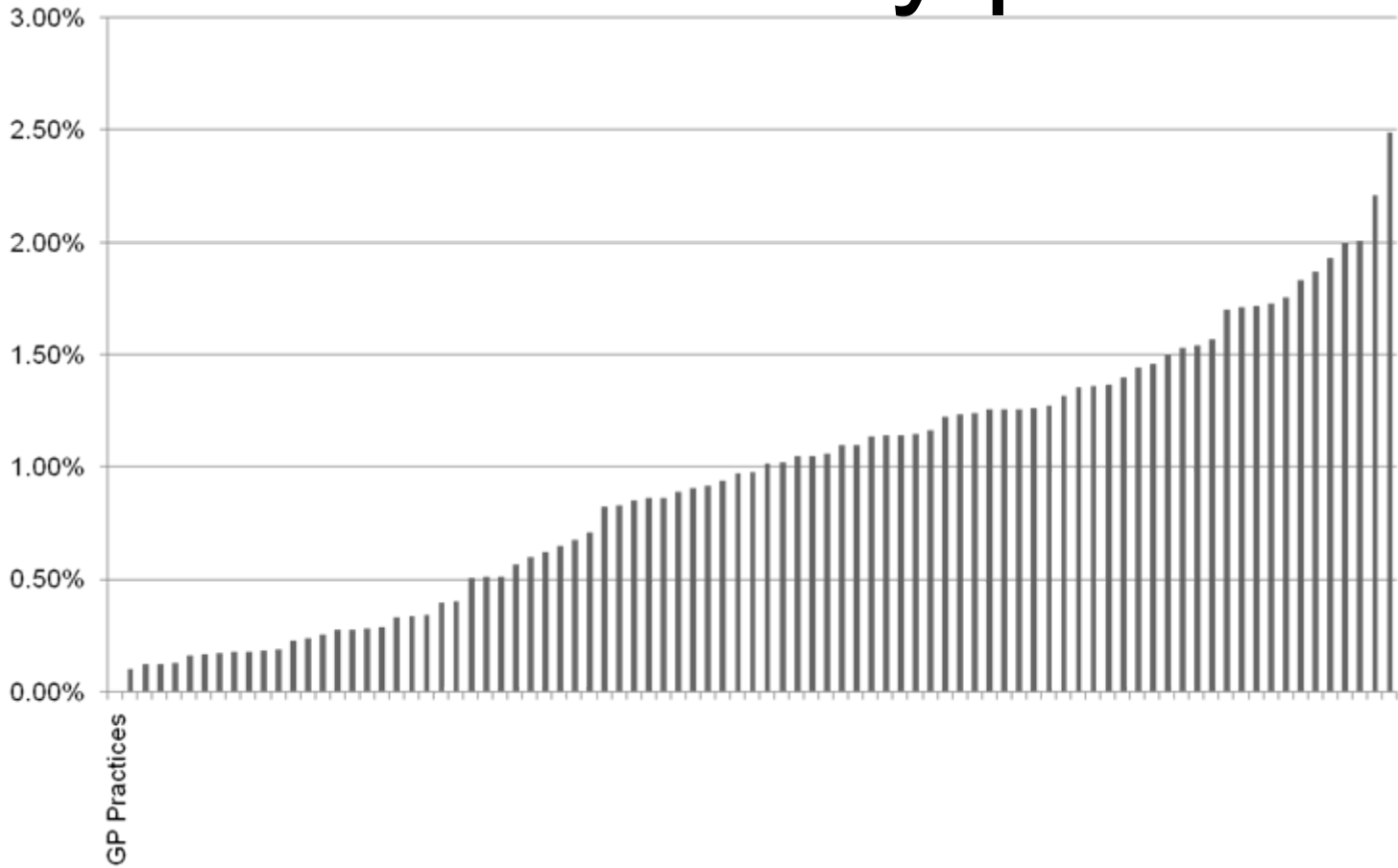
Source: IC, QPID (using Quality & Outcomes Framework data)



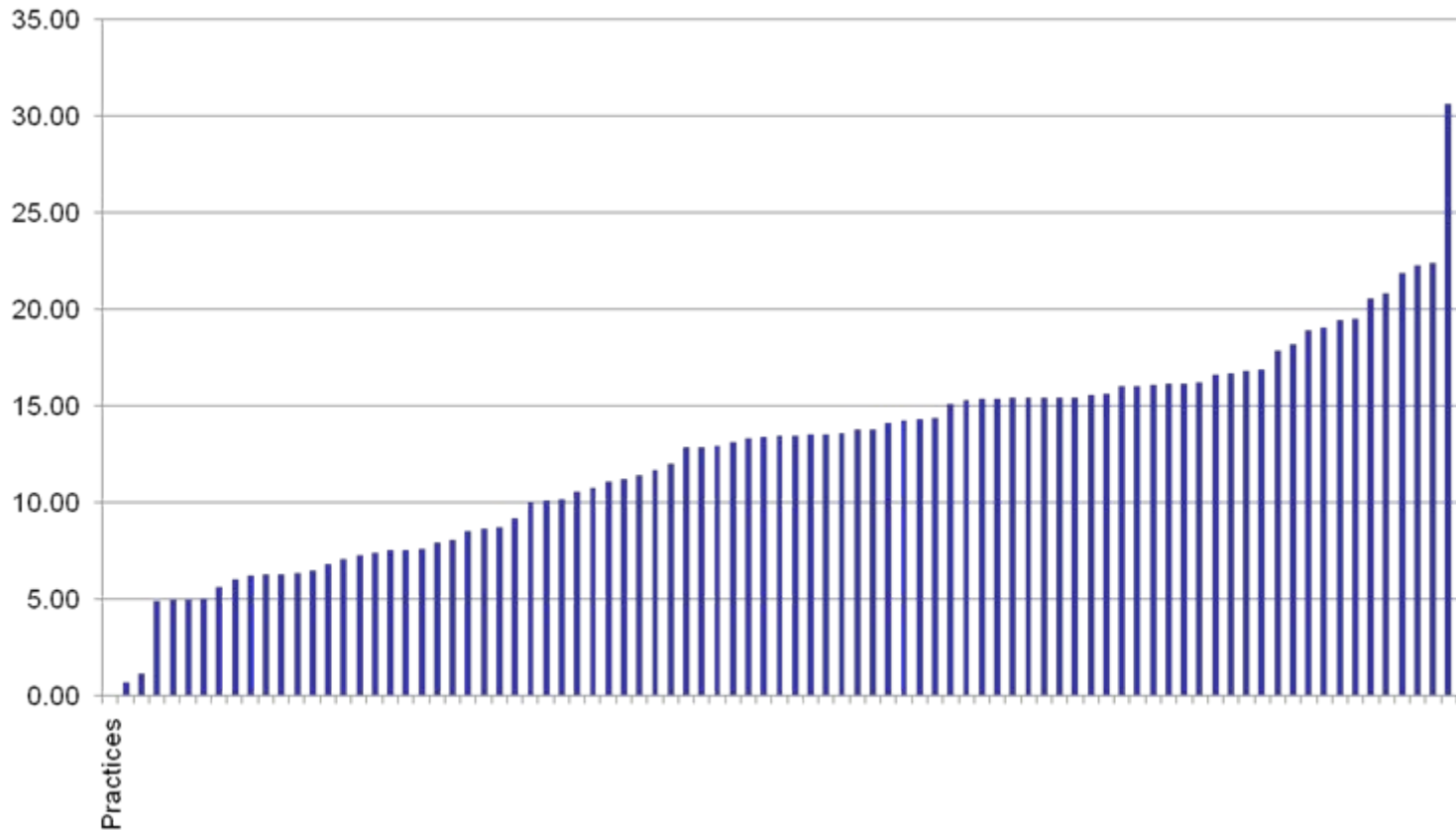
% practice list over 65 plotted against %AF prevalence



Prevalence AF by practice

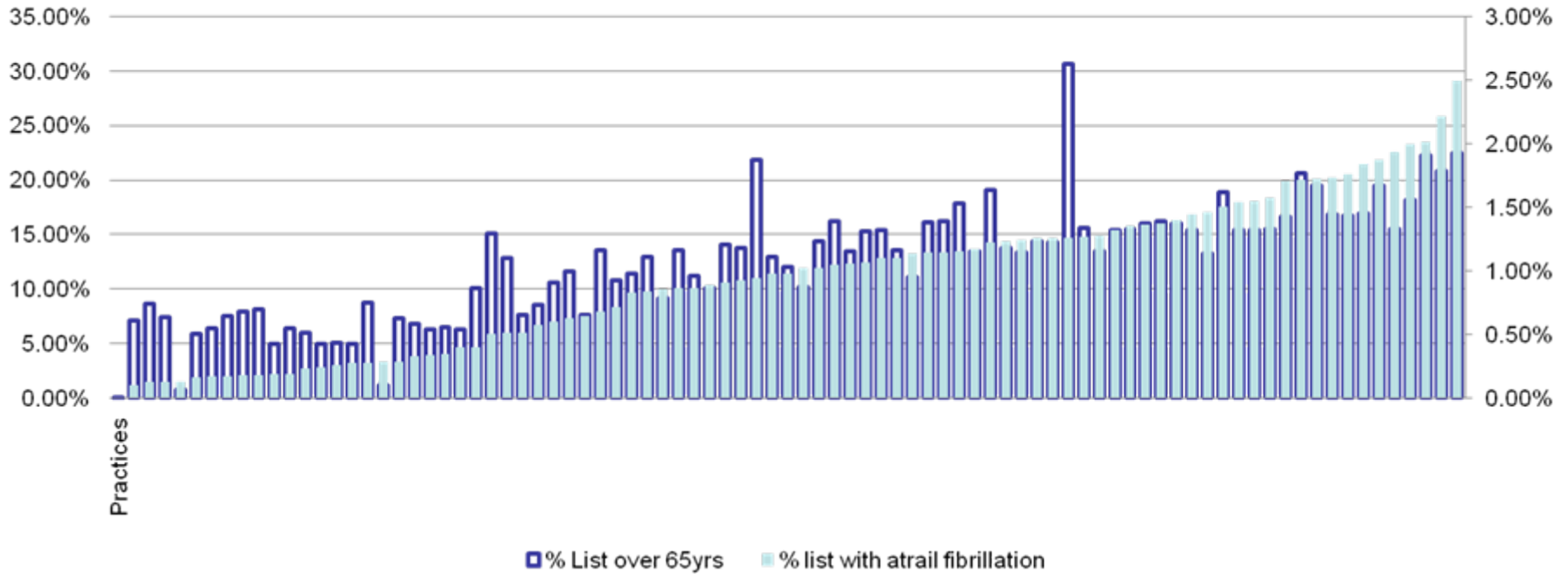


% Over 65yrs by practice



Direct Comparison

Chart Title



What Should the GP do?

- Assess patients with symptoms suggestive of AF
- Incidental screening while reviewing for other problems
- Initiate preliminary investigations such as:
 - 12 Lead ECG
 - FBC
 - Electrolytes
 - Liver function and Gamma GT
 - Thyroid Function
- Appropriately risk stratify

What Should the GP do?

- Initiate appropriate antithrombotic therapy
- Initiate patient education
- Initiate rate limiting medication
- Assess patient progress
- Refer on if rate over rhythm therapy not effective
- Refer on if alternative pathology suspected

What should Enhanced General Practice do?

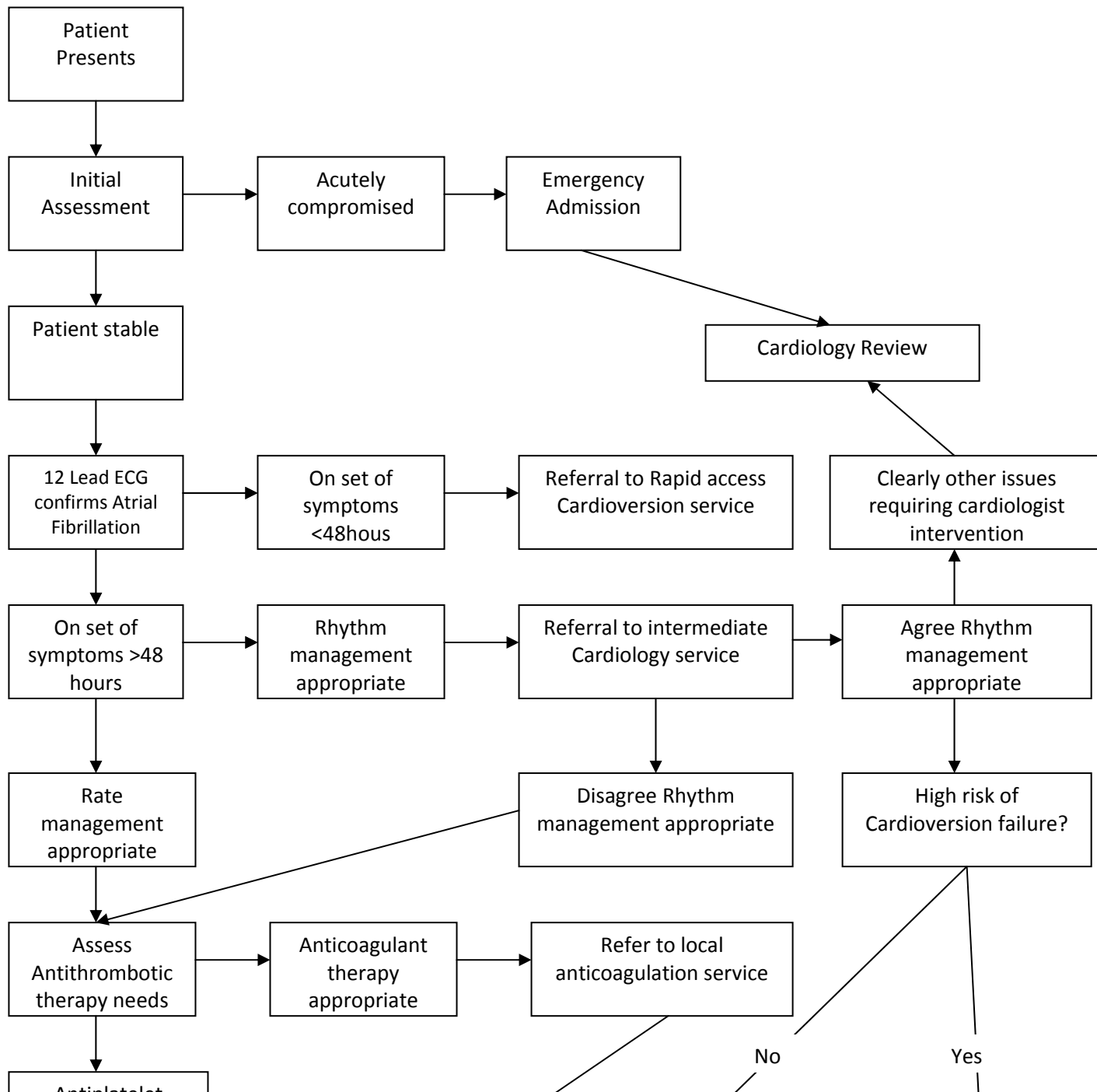
- Appropriately perform and interpret an ECG
- Initiate anticoagulation as appropriate

What should Intermediate Cardiology Services do?

- To assist other practices in the interpretation of ECGs
- Receive referrals directly from other practices
- To assist in the diagnosis and management of patients presenting with possible Paroxysmal Atrial Fibrillation.
- To assist in the decision of Rate over Rhythm management and if the latter to ensure rapid referral to locality anticoagulation services and referral to DC Cardioversion to obtain optimum treatment intervals for effective intervention

What should Intermediate Cardiology Services do?

- Arrange locality echocardiography in individuals where questions regarding the suitability of anticoagulation or possibility of successful Cardioversion are in question.
- Receive patient back from secondary care cardioversion services to monitor progress and reassess medication strategies dependant on the success of cardioversion.



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Questions

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