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**News release**

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## **Hartford Hospital offers new treatment for brain bleeding**

**HARTFORD** -- Hartford Hospital is the only hospital in the state to be approved for the new medication Andexxa to treat brain hemorrhages (bleeding) related to the use of certain blood thinners.

The use of the new medication has the potential to limit brain damage due to bleeding and, in some cases, save lives. Only a select group of hospitals nationwide is able to offer this medication since it requires specific treatment protocols, medical expertise and nursing skills to administer safely. In only a few weeks since this medication was approved by the FDA, the clinicians, nurses and pharmacists at Hartford Hospital have successfully administered Andexxa to several patients.

"It was successful in controlling the bleeding in almost all cases," said Dr. Mark Alberts, physician-in-chief of the Ayer Neuroscience Institute, which includes Hartford Hospital. "Indeed, Hartford Hospital is among the national leaders in the use of this medication."

Bleeding into the brain is among the worst complications of using blood thinners, Alberts said. Before the recent approval of this medication, there were no FDA-approved medications to use in this situation.

Manufactured by Portola, Andexxa must be administered intravenously. It reverses the effects of the blood thinner within minutes.

Hartford Hospital is a Comprehensive Stroke Center and a Level 1 Trauma Center. Based on this patient population, it is likely that Andexxa will be used at least several times per month to reverse bleeding events in these patients, Alberts said.

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*Hartford HealthCare is Connecticut's most comprehensive healthcare network. Our fully integrated health system includes The Hospital of Central Connecticut, MidState Medical Center, Hartford Hospital, Backus Hospital, Windham Hospital, Charlotte Hungerford, as well as the state's most extensive behavioral health network, a large multispecialty physician group, a regional home care system, an array of senior care services, a large physical therapy and rehabilitation network and an accountable care organization. The Hartford HealthCare Cancer Institute provides coordinated care across five cancer centers, and is the charter member of the Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Alliance. Visit us at [www.hartfordhealthcare.org](http://www.hartfordhealthcare.org)*