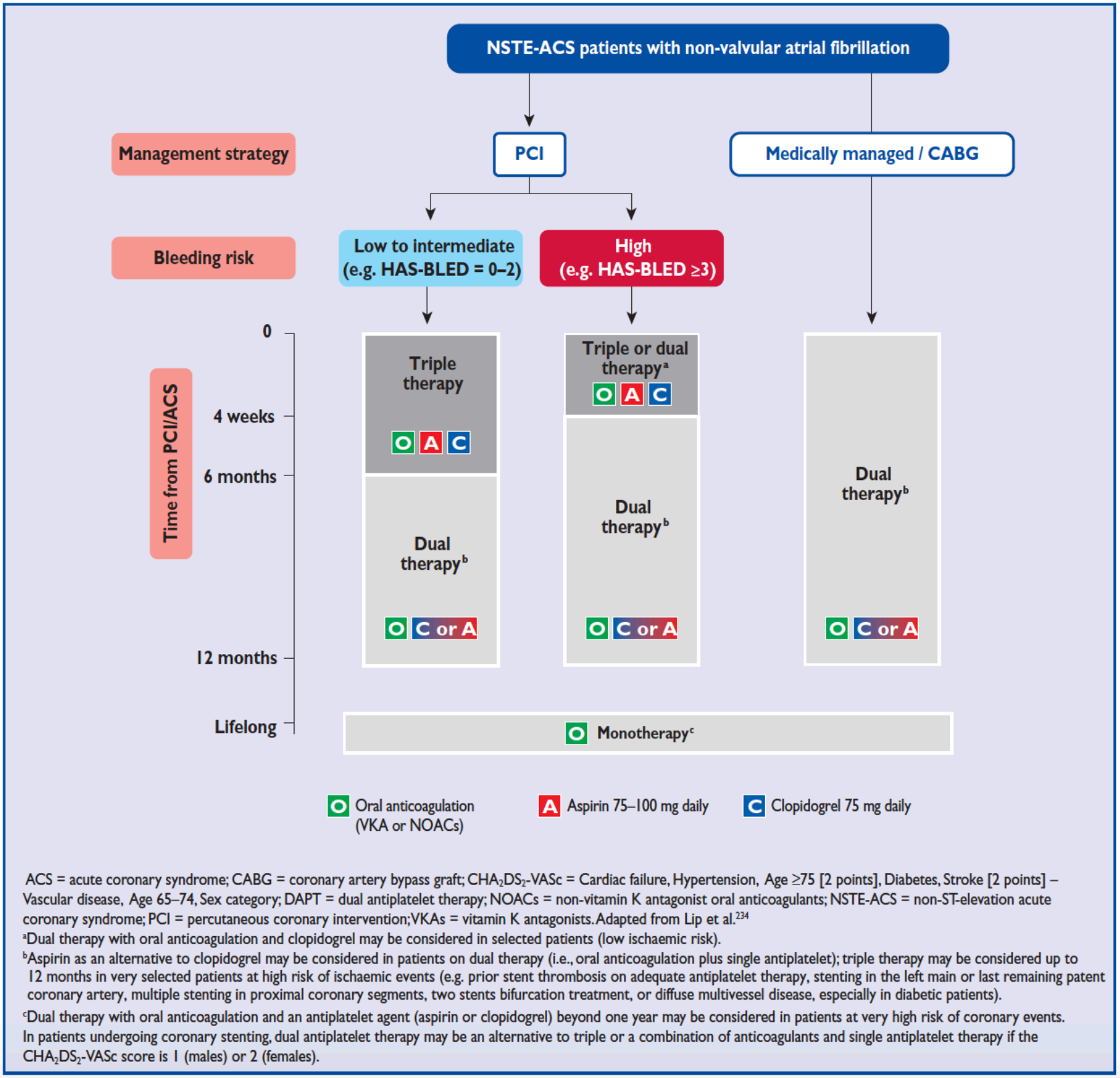

ACS = acute coronary syndrome; CABG = coronary artery bypass graft; CHA_2DS_2-VASc = Cardiac failure, Hypertension, Age ≥75 [2 points], Diabetes, Stroke [2 points] – Vascular disease, Age 65–74, Sex category; DAPT = dual antiplatelet therapy; NOACs = non-vitamin K antagonist oral anticoagulants; NSTE-ACS = non-ST-elevation acute coronary syndrome; PCI = percutaneous coronary intervention; VKAs = vitamin K antagonists. Adapted from Lip et al.[234]

[a]Dual therapy with oral anticoagulation and clopidogrel may be considered in selected patients (low ischaemic risk).

[b]Aspirin as an alternative to clopidogrel may be considered in patients on dual therapy (i.e., oral anticoagulation plus single antiplatelet); triple therapy may be considered up to 12 months in very selected patients at high risk of ischaemic events (e.g. prior stent thrombosis on adequate antiplatelet therapy, stenting in the left main or last remaining patent coronary artery, multiple stenting in proximal coronary segments, two stents bifurcation treatment, or diffuse multivessel disease, especially in diabetic patients).

[c]Dual therapy with oral anticoagulation and an antiplatelet agent (aspirin or clopidogrel) beyond one year may be considered in patients at very high risk of coronary events. In patients undergoing coronary stenting, dual antiplatelet therapy may be an alternative to triple or a combination of anticoagulants and single antiplatelet therapy if the CHA_2DS_2-VASc score is 1 (males) or 2 (females).

Recommendations for combining antiplatelet agents and anticoagulants in non-ST-elevation acute coronary syndrome patients requiring chronic oral anticoagulation

Recommendations	Class[a]	Level[b]	Ref.[c]
In patients with a firm indication for OAC (e.g. atrial fibrillation with a CHA_2DS_2-VASc score ≥ 2, recent venous thromboembolism, LV thrombus or mechanical valve prosthesis), OAC is recommended in addition to antiplatelet therapy.	I	C	
An early invasive coronary angiography (within 24 h) should be considered in moderate- to high-risk patients,[d] irrespective of OAC exposure, to expedite treatment allocation (medical vs. PCI vs. CABG) and to determine the optimal antithrombotic regimen.	IIa	C	
Initial dual antiplatelet therapy with aspirin plus a $P2Y_{12}$ inhibitor in addition to OAC before coronary angiography is not recommended.	III	C	
Patients undergoing coronary stenting			
Anticoagulation			
During PCI, additional parenteral anticoagulation is recommended, irrespective of the timing of the last dose of all NOACs and if INR is <2.5 in VKA-treated patients.	I	C	
Uninterrupted therapeutic anticoagulation with VKA or NOACs should be considered during the periprocedural phase.	IIa	C	

Antiplatelet treatment			
Following coronary stenting, DAPT including new $P2Y_{12}$ inhibitors should be considered as an alternative to triple therapy for patients with NSTE-ACS and atrial fibrillation with a CHA_2DS_2-VASc score of 1 (in males) or 2 (in females).	IIa	C	
If at low bleeding risk (HAS-BLED $\leq$2), triple therapy with OAC, aspirin (75–100 mg/day) and clopidogrel 75 mg/day should be considered for 6 months, followed by OAC and aspirin 75–100 mg/day or clopidogrel (75 mg/day) continued up to 12 months.	IIa	C	
If at high bleeding risk (HAS-BLED $\geq$3), triple therapy with OAC, aspirin (75–100 mg/day) and clopidogrel 75 mg/day should be considered for a duration of 1 month, followed by OAC and aspirin 75–100 mg/day or clopidogrel (75 mg/day) continued up to 12 months irrespective of the stent type (BMS or new-generation DES).	IIa	C	
Dual therapy with OAC and clopidogrel 75 mg/day may be considered as an alternative to triple antithrombotic therapy in selected patients (HAS-BLED $\geq$3 and low risk of stent thrombosis).	IIb	B	246, 248
The use of ticagrelor or prasugrel as part of triple therapy is not recommended.	III	C	
Vascular access and stent type			
Radial over femoral access is recommended for coronary angiography and PCI.	I	A	251
The use of new-generation DES over BMS should be considered among patients requiring OAC.	IIa	B	245, 252
Medically managed patients			
One antiplatelet agent in addition to OAC should be considered for up to 1 year.	IIa	C	