Figure 2: Electrical cardioversion

Non-urgent synchronized electrical cardioversion

Hemodynamic instability

Urgent synchronized electrical cardioversion

AF duration

<48 hours

Cardioversion

<48 hours

AF duration

>48 hours or uncertain

Delay cardioversion. Ensure OAC for 3 weeks prior to cardioversion

OR

(depending on patient preference)

Cardiovert immediately with a TOE and OAC prior

CHA₂DS₂-VAS

0

Consider OAC for 4 weeks

1

Consider OAC long term

>2

OAC long term

See Table 2: factors favouring a rhythm strategy

NOAC preferred. If warfarin selected, parenteral anticoagulation must be used until warfarin is therapeutic

No OAC necessary if AF duration less than or equal to 48hrs

See figure 6: stroke prevention