SAQ - CVS August 2014

A 78yo man presents with a history of palpitations and a clear onset of 4 hours prior to presentation. He has a background history of hypertension and stroke with no residual deficit 6 years ago and is on no medication. His ECG shows atrial fibrillation with no ischaemic changes and a rate of 80-90 beats per minute. His BP is 140/90 and there is nothing to find on examination.

1.	Justify returning this patient to sinus rhythm (2 marks)
2.	Your resident wants to start a magnesium infusion for this patient. How will you respond to them? Justify your answer (1 marks)
3.	List 3 factors that you would elicit from this patient when deciding an anticoagulation regime (3 marks)
4.	List 2 approaches to pharmacological reversion in this patient and justify your choices (4 marks)