

MEDICAL EDUCATION

SPEAKERS NETWORK

ESTD  DATE

Medical Education Trending Topic

Anticoagulation Update

If your medical staff would like an update on the use of anticoagulants, please contact our office to schedule a virtual lecture at 877-505-4777 or info@speakersnetwork.com.

What is the problem:

Anticoagulation therapy is recommended for preventing, treating, and reducing the recurrence of venous thromboembolism, and preventing stroke in persons with atrial fibrillation. Direct oral anticoagulants are first-line agents for eligible patients for treating venous thromboembolism and preventing stroke in those with nonvalvular atrial fibrillation. Infection with the novel coronavirus SARS-CoV-2 and the resulting syndrome coronavirus disease (COVID-19) has been associated with inflammation and a prothrombotic state, with increases in fibrin, fibrin degradation products, fibrinogen, and D-dimers. In fact, these markers have been associated with worse clinical outcomes. Although the true incidence of these complications among those with different severities of disease is not completely defined, there have been reports of increased incidence of thromboembolic disease associated with COVID-19 in patients in the intensive care unit (ICU). All hospitalized adults with COVID-19 should receive pharmacologic thromboprophylaxis with LMWH over unfractionated heparin to reduce contact, unless the risk of bleeding outweighs the risk of thrombosis.

Learning Objectives:

After the activity, participants will be able to:

1. Follow indications and contraindications for use of anticoagulants
2. Select the proper medication for each patient's therapeutic needs
3. Follow current guidelines for management and patient safety goals appropriately
4. Choose the proper use of anticoagulants in hospitalized patients with COVID-19
5. Communicate the importance of following the medication instructions given while navigating any cultural, health literacy, and language barriers

References:

<https://www.aafp.org/afp/2019/1001/p426.html>

<https://www.covid19treatmentguidelines.nih.gov/adjunctive-therapy/antithrombotic-therapy/>

<https://www.hematology.org/covid-19/covid-19-and-vte-anticoagulation>