TITLE: Venous Thromboembolism Prophylaxis: Clinical Evidence and Guidelines

DATE: 6 April 2011

RESEARCH QUESTIONS

1. What is the clinical evidence on venous thromboembolism prophylaxis for patients in hospital or emergency room settings?

2. What are the Canadian or North American evidence-based guidelines on venous thromboembolism prophylaxis for patients in hospital or emergency room settings?

KEY MESSAGE

A wide range of clinical evidence was identified regarding venous thromboembolism prophylaxis for patients in hospital or emergency room settings.

METHODS

A limited literature search was conducted on key resources including PubMed, The Cochrane Library (2011, Issue 3), University of York Centre for Reviews and Dissemination (CRD) databases Canadian and major international health technology agencies, as well as a focused Internet search. Methodological filters were applied to limit retrieval to health technology assessments, systematic reviews, meta-analyses and guidelines. Where possible, retrieval was limited to the human population. The search was also limited to English language documents published between January 1, 2006 and March 29, 2011.

RESULTS

Rapid Response reports are organized so that the higher quality evidence is presented first. Therefore, health technology assessment reports, systematic reviews, and meta-analyses are presented first. These are followed by evidence-based guidelines.

The literature search identified two health technology assessments, 37 systematic reviews/meta-analyses, and eight Canadian or North American evidence-based guidelines

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regarding venous thromboembolism prophylaxis for patients in hospital or emergency room settings. Additional studies of potential interest are provided in the appendix.

Health technology assessments


Systematic reviews and meta-analyses


Guidelines and recommendations


APPENDIX – FURTHER INFORMATION:

Review articles


