Heparin (5,000 u/0.5 mL) for Catheter Lock or Flush: An Update Regarding the Clinical Effectiveness, Safety, and Guidelines
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About CADTH: CADTH is an independent, not-for-profit organization responsible for providing Canada’s health care decision-makers with objective evidence to help make informed decisions about the optimal use of drugs, medical devices, diagnostics, and procedures in our health care system.
Research Questions
1. What is the clinical effectiveness and safety of heparin 5,000 u/0.5 mL for catheter lock or flush?
2. What are the evidence-based guidelines associated with the use of heparin for catheter lock or flush?

Key Findings
Two systematic reviews (both including meta-analyses) were identified regarding heparin (5,000 u/0.5 mL) for catheter lock or flush.

Methods
A limited literature search was conducted on key resources including PubMed, EMBASE, The Cochrane Library, University of York Centre for Reviews and Dissemination (CRD) databases, Canadian and major international health technology agencies, as well as a focused Internet search. No filters were applied to limit the retrieval by study type. Where possible, retrieval was limited to the human population. The search was also limited to English language documents published between January 1, 2008 and August 31, 2017. Internet links were provided, where available.

Selection Criteria
One reviewer screened citations and selected studies based on the inclusion criteria presented in Table 1.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Table 1: Selection Criteria</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Population</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Intervention</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Comparator</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Q2: No comparator required</td>
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<td><strong>Outcomes</strong></td>
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<td>Q2: Guidelines</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Study Designs</strong></td>
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</table>
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 randomized controlled trials, non-randomized studies, and evidence-based guidelines.

Two systematic reviews (both including meta-analyses), were identified regarding heparin (5,000 u/0.5 mL) for catheter lock or flush. No relevant health technology assessments, randomized controlled trials, non-randomized studies, or evidence-based guidelines were identified.

Additional references of potential interest are provided in the appendix.

Health Technology Assessments

No literature identified.

Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses


Randomized Controlled Trials

No literature identified.

Non-Randomized Studies

No literature identified.

Guidelines and Recommendations

No literature identified.
Appendix — Further Information

Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses

Alternate Heparin Dose (5000U/mL)


Randomized Controlled Trials

Alternate Heparin Dose (5000 U/mL)


Non-Randomized Studies

Alternate Heparin Dose (5000 U/mL)


Clinical Practice Guidelines – Unspecified Methodology


Position Paper