



Complete Summary

GUIDELINE TITLE

Parenteral anticoagulants. American College of Chest Physicians evidence-based clinical practice guidelines (8th edition).

BIBLIOGRAPHIC SOURCE(S)

Hirsh J, Bauer KA, Donati MB, Gould M, Samama MM, Weitz JI. Parenteral anticoagulants: American College of Chest Physicians Evidence-Based Clinical Practice Guidelines (8th Edition). Chest 2008 Jun;133(6 Suppl):141S-59S. [214 references] [PubMed](#)

GUIDELINE STATUS

This is the current release of the guideline.

** REGULATORY ALERT **

FDA WARNING/REGULATORY ALERT

Note from the National Guideline Clearinghouse: This guideline references a drug(s) for which important revised regulatory and/or warning information has been released.

- [December 3, 2008, Innohep \(tinzaparin\)](#): The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has requested that the labeling for Innohep be revised to better describe overall study results which suggest that, when compared to unfractionated heparin, Innohep increases the risk of death for elderly patients (i.e., 70 years of age and older) with renal insufficiency. Healthcare professionals should consider the use of alternative treatments to Innohep when treating elderly patients over 70 years of age with renal insufficiency and deep vein thrombosis (DVT), pulmonary embolism (PE), or both.
- [February 28, 2008, Heparin Sodium Injection](#): The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) informed the public that Baxter Healthcare Corporation has voluntarily recalled all of their multi-dose and single-use vials of heparin sodium for injection and their heparin lock flush solutions. Alternate heparin manufacturers are expected to be able to increase heparin production sufficiently to supply the U.S. market. There have been reports of serious adverse events including allergic or hypersensitivity-type reactions, with symptoms of oral swelling, nausea, vomiting, sweating, shortness of breath, and cases of severe hypotension.

COMPLETE SUMMARY CONTENT

** REGULATORY ALERT **

SCOPE

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CATEGORIES

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SCOPE

DISEASE/CONDITION(S)

Arterial and venous thromboembolism

GUIDELINE CATEGORY

Prevention

Treatment

CLINICAL SPECIALTY

Cardiology

Critical Care

Emergency Medicine

Family Practice

Internal Medicine

INTENDED USERS

Advanced Practice Nurses

Allied Health Personnel

Health Care Providers

Nurses

Patients

Physicians

Psychologists/Non-physician Behavioral Health Clinicians

Social Workers

GUIDELINE OBJECTIVE(S)

To provide evidence-based guidelines on the use of approved parenteral anticoagulants

TARGET POPULATION

Patients requiring parenteral anticoagulants for the treatment and prevention of arterial and venous thromboembolism

INTERVENTIONS AND PRACTICES CONSIDERED

Treatment

1. Weight based dosing of low molecular weight heparin (LMWH) in obese patients
2. Unfractionated heparin (UFH) and LMWH in patients with severe renal insufficiency
3. Lepirudin
4. Desirudin
5. Argatroban
6. Vitamin K antagonist (VKA)

Monitoring

1. Anti-Xa levels
2. Activated partial thromboplastin time (APTT)
3. Chromogenic factor X assay
4. International normalized ratio (INR)

Note: Routine coagulation monitoring in patients treated with low-molecular-weight heparin (LMWH) and repeated use of lepirudin or desirudin was considered but not recommended.

MAJOR OUTCOMES CONSIDERED

- Mortality
- Incidence of thrombosis
- Recurrent thromboembolism
- Incidence of major and minor hemorrhage
- Time to achieve therapeutic international normalized ratio (INR)

METHODOLOGY

METHODS USED TO COLLECT/SELECT EVIDENCE

Hand-searches of Published Literature (Primary Sources)
Searches of Electronic Databases

DESCRIPTION OF METHODS USED TO COLLECT/SELECT THE EVIDENCE

Process of Searching for Evidence

Defining the clinical question provided the framework for formulating eligibility criteria that guided the search for relevant evidence. In specifying eligibility criteria, authors identified not only patients, interventions, and outcomes, but also methodologic criteria. For many recommendations, authors restricted eligibility to randomized controlled trials (RCTs).

For many questions, randomized trials did not provide sufficient data, and chapter authors included observational studies when randomized trials were not the most appropriate design to address the research question. In particular, randomized trials are not necessarily the best design to understand risk groups, that is, the baseline or expected risk of a given event for certain subpopulations. Because no interventions are typically examined in questions about prognosis, one replaces interventions by the duration of exposure measured in time.

Identifying the Evidence

To identify the relevant evidence, a team of librarians and research associates at the McMaster University Evidence based practice center (EPC) conducted comprehensive literature searches. Methodologic experts (including the editors) and the EPC librarians reviewed each question to ensure the development of a comprehensive search strategy. For example, for questions about antiplatelet agents, the EPC consulted chapter authors to ensure that the search included all relevant antiplatelet agents. More specifically, authors then decided whether to include dipyridamole in a search that already included aspirin, clopidogrel, and ticlopidine.

For each question the authors provided, the librarians searched the Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews, MEDLINE, and Embase for published English-language literature and human studies between 2002 and May 2006. To filter MEDLINE and Embase search results for RCT evidence, the librarians used the search strategy developed by the Cochrane Collaboration. These searches updated the more comprehensive and sensitive searches conducted for the Seventh ACCP Conference on Antithrombotic and Thrombolytic Therapy: Evidence Based Guidelines.

The EPC team conducted separate searches for systematic reviews; RCTs; and, if applicable, observational studies. For observational studies, searches were not restricted in terms of methodology. Although increasing the probability of identifying all published studies, this sensitive approach resulted in large numbers of citations for many of the defined clinical questions. Therefore, trained research assistants screened the citation list developed from the search using criteria of increased specificity to reduce the number of irrelevant citations that the authors received. These irrelevant citations included press news, editorials, narrative reviews, single-case reports, studies that included fewer participants than specified by authors as an inclusion criterion, animal studies (any nonhuman studies), and letters to the editor. Authors did not include data from abstracts of meetings for the development of recommendations, and the guideline developers did not explicitly use Internet sources to search for research data. Authors were encouraged, however, to mention abstracts that reported on groundbreaking data that were particularly relevant to a specific question in the chapters in order to alert readers that new, fully published evidence might become available shortly.

Standard Consideration of Study Quality

High-quality clinical guidelines should pay careful attention to the methodologic quality of the studies that form the basis of their recommendations. Using the example of the prevention of venous thromboembolism during air travel, Table 1 in the methodology companion (see "Availability of Companion Documents" field)

shows the criteria for assessment of study quality (randomization, concealment or treatment allocation, blinding, completeness of follow-up, and whether the analysis was performed according to the intention-to-treat principle), and Table 2 in the methodology companion (see "Availability of Companion Documents" field) shows the presentation of results that were circulated to the authors. Whereas all authors attended to these criteria, the guideline developers have summarized the results of the quality assessment for only a minority of the recommendations. Readers can find these summaries in an online appendix to the recommendations (see online supplemental data).

In assessing the quality of observational studies, the guideline developers did not make a distinction between prospective and retrospective because the key issues are unbiased sampling, high-quality measurement of patient characteristics and outcomes, and complete follow-up.

Although it is more likely that these quality criteria will be achieved in prospective studies, prospective studies may fail to achieve them, and retrospective studies may succeed. The guideline developers did make a key distinction about whether internal comparisons exist and their nature. Studies without internal comparisons received the label "case series" unless they met the following criteria: (1) a protocol existed before the date of commencement of data collection; (2) a definition of inclusion and exclusion criteria was available; (3) the study reported the number of excluded patients; (4) the study conducted a standardized follow-up, including description of schedule of follow-up, investigation of suspected outcomes, and criteria used to define outcomes; and (5) the study reported all losses to follow-up.

The guideline developers labeled studies that met these criteria "cohort studies without internal controls." Studies with internal comparisons received the label "cohort studies with concurrent controls" or "cohort studies with historical controls." These cohort studies may succeed or fail to ensure settings, similar time frames, adjustment for differences in patients' characteristics, and follow-up with patients. These features were captured in descriptive tables provided to authors when requested from the EPC.

NUMBER OF SOURCE DOCUMENTS

Not stated

METHODS USED TO ASSESS THE QUALITY AND STRENGTH OF THE EVIDENCE

Weighting According to a Rating Scheme (Scheme Given)

RATING SCHEME FOR THE STRENGTH OF THE EVIDENCE

The rating scheme framework captures the trade-off between benefits and risks (1 or 2) and the methodological quality of the underlying evidence (A, B, or C). See "Grades of recommendations for antithrombotic agents" in the "Availability of Companion Documents" field and the "Rating Scheme for the Strength of the Recommendations." field.

METHODS USED TO ANALYZE THE EVIDENCE

Review of Published Meta-Analyses
Systematic Review with Evidence Tables

DESCRIPTION OF THE METHODS USED TO ANALYZE THE EVIDENCE

Summarizing Evidence

The electronic searches also included searches for systematic reviews. If authors were satisfied with a recent high-quality systematic review, evidence from that review provided a foundation for the relevant recommendation.

Pooled analyses from high-quality systematic reviews formed summary data on which panelists based their recommendations wherever possible. Pooling offers the advantage of obtaining more precise estimates of treatment effects and allows for greater generalizability of results. However, pooling also bears the risk of spurious generalization. In general, the summary estimates of interest were the different types of outcomes conveying benefits and downsides (risk, burden, and cost). When pooled estimates of effects were not available, the McMaster University Evidence based practice center (EPC) conducted meta-analysis to obtain pooled estimates for specific questions. These were questions that authors had specifically identified.

METHODS USED TO FORMULATE THE RECOMMENDATIONS

Expert Consensus (Consensus Development Conference)

DESCRIPTION OF METHODS USED TO FORMULATE THE RECOMMENDATIONS

Group-Specific Recommendations

In general, the guideline developers have endeavored to make their recommendations as specific as possible for patient subgroups differing according to risk. Whenever valid prognostic data were available, the guideline developers used them to estimate absolute effects and made recommendations accordingly. Unfortunately, reliable prognostic indexes are not usually available, limiting the extent to which such group-specific recommendations are possible.

Acknowledge Values and Preferences and Resource Use Underlying Recommendations

Under ideal circumstances, knowledge of average patient values and preferences would be available for every recommendation, the panel members would summarize these values and preferences, and they would be integrated into the recommendations that guideline developers make. The guideline developers asked all chapter chairs before beginning the searches for the relevant literature to identify recommendations that they believed were particularly sensitive to patients' values and preferences. Moderate-quality evidence regarding values and preferences bearing directly on the recommendations proved available for only the

chapter that addresses antithrombotic therapy in patients with atrial fibrillation. The panelists bore in mind what average patient values and preferences may be; the process, however, is speculative.

The guideline developer's main strategy for dealing with this unsatisfactory situation is to make the values and preferences underlying the recommendations explicit whenever the panelists believed that value and preference issues were crucial for a recommendation.

In addition, the guideline developers involved three consultants with expertise in the area of values and preferences to collaborate with the chairs of two chapters and try to ensure that the guidelines adequately represented the views of patients. This collaboration led to extensive discussions among the chapter authors and the consultants and the reflection of these discussions in the associated values and preference statements.

Finalizing and Harmonizing Recommendations

After having completed the steps the guideline developers have described above, the guideline authors formulated draft recommendations before the conference, which laid the foundation for authors to work together and critique the recommendations. Figure 1 in the methodology companion (see "Availability of Companion Documents" field) shows the process of guideline development and review. Drafts of chapters that included draft recommendations were usually distributed for peer review to at least two panel members and were always reviewed by at least one panel editor before the conference. Written critiques were prepared and returned to the authors for revision of their work. At the plenary conference, a representative of each chapter presented potentially controversial issues in their recommendations. Chapter authors met to integrate feedback and consider related recommendations in other chapters and to revise their own guidelines accordingly. Authors continued this process after the conference until they reached agreement within their groups and with other author groups who provided critical feedback. The editors of this supplement harmonized the chapters and resolved remaining disagreements between chapters through facilitated discussion. All major correspondence and discussions at the meeting were recorded in written and audio protocols and are publicly available.

RATING SCHEME FOR THE STRENGTH OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS

Grading Recommendation			
Grade of Recommendation*	Benefit vs. Risk and Burdens	Methodologic Quality of Supporting Evidence	Implications
Strong recommendation, high-quality evidence, Grade 1A	Desirable effects clearly outweigh	Consistent evidence from RCTs without important limitations or	Recommendation can apply to most patients in most circumstances; further research is very

Grading Recommendation			
Grade of Recommendation*	Benefit vs. Risk and Burdens	Methodologic Quality of Supporting Evidence	Implications
	undesirable effects, or <i>vice versa</i>	exceptionally strong evidence from observational studies	unlikely to change our confidence in the estimate of effect
Strong recommendation, moderate-quality evidence, Grade 1B	Desirable effects clearly outweigh undesirable effects, or <i>vice versa</i>	Evidence from RCTs with important limitations (inconsistent results, methodologic flaws, indirect or imprecise), or very strong evidence from observational studies	Recommendation can apply to most patients in most circumstances; higher quality research may well have an important impact on our confidence in the estimate of effect and may change the estimate
Strong recommendation, low or very low-quality evidence, Grade 1C	Desirable effects clearly outweigh undesirable effects, or <i>vice versa</i>	Evidence for at least one critical outcome from observational studies, case series, or from RCTs with serious flaws or indirect evidence	Recommendation can apply to most patients in many circumstances; higher-quality research is likely to have an important impact on our confidence in the estimate of effect and may well change the estimate
Weak recommendation, high-quality evidence, Grade 2A	Desirable effects closely balanced with undesirable effects	Consistent evidence from RCTs without important limitations or exceptionally strong evidence from observational studies	The best action may differ depending on circumstances or patient or society values; further research is very unlikely to change our confidence in the estimate of effect
Weak recommendation, moderate-quality evidence, Grade 2B	Desirable effects closely balanced with undesirable effects	Evidence from RCTs with important limitations (inconsistent results, methodologic flaws, indirect or imprecise), or very strong evidence from observational studies	Best action may differ depending on circumstances or patient or society values; higher-quality research may well have an important impact on our confidence in the estimate of effect and may change the estimate

Grading Recommendation			
Grade of Recommendation*	Benefit vs. Risk and Burdens	Methodologic Quality of Supporting Evidence	Implications
Weak recommendation, low or very low-quality evidence, Grade 2C	Desirable effects closely balanced with undesirable effects	Evidence for at least one critical outcome from observational studies, case series, or from RCTs with serious flaws or indirect evidence	Other alternatives may be equally reasonable; higher-quality research is likely to have an important impact on our confidence in the estimate of effect and may well change the estimate

*The guideline developers use the wording *recommend* for strong (Grade 1) recommendations and *suggest* for weak (Grade 2) recommendations.

COST ANALYSIS

For these guidelines, the guideline developers implemented recommendations of a recent American College of Chest Physicians (ACCP) task force on integrating resource allocation in clinical practice guidelines by restricting resource expenditure consideration to a small number of recommendations for which they were particularly relevant. The guideline developers relied on two consultants with expertise in economic assessment to help with the process of considering costs in those small numbers of recommendations that the guideline developers considered very important to the decision.

Recommendations highly sensitive to resource allocation now include value and preference statements regarding how cost issues were integrated.

Refer to "Strategies for incorporating resource allocation and economic considerations" (see "Availability of Companion Documents" field) for details of the cost analyses.

METHOD OF GUIDELINE VALIDATION

External Peer Review
Internal Peer Review

DESCRIPTION OF METHOD OF GUIDELINE VALIDATION

The American College of Chest Physicians (ACCP) Health Science Policy (HSP) established a process for the thorough review of all ACCP evidence-based clinical practice guidelines. After final review by the editors, the guidelines underwent review by appropriate NetWorks of the ACCP (for these guidelines, the Cardiovascular and Pulmonary Vascular NetWorks), the HSP, and the Board of Regents. The latter two have the right of approval or disapproval but usually work with the guideline authors and editors to make necessary revisions before final

approval. Each group identified primary reviewers who read the full set of chapters as well as individual committee members who were responsible for reviewing one or more chapters. The reviewers considered both content and methodology as well as whether there was balanced, not biased, reporting and adherence to HSP processes. Finally, the *CHEST* editor-in-chief read and forwarded the manuscripts for nonbiased, independent, external peer review before acceptance for publication.

RECOMMENDATIONS

MAJOR RECOMMENDATIONS

The grades of recommendation (1A, 1B, 1C, 2A, 2B, 2C) are defined at the end of the "Major Recommendations" field.

Monitoring Antithrombotic Effect

In patients treated with low-molecular-weight heparin (LMWH), the guideline developers recommend against routine coagulation monitoring (**Grade 1C**). In pregnant women treated with therapeutic doses of LMWH, the guideline developers recommend monitoring of anti-Xa levels (**Grade 1C**).

Dosing and Monitoring in Special Situations

In obese patients receiving LMWH prophylaxis or treatment, the guideline developers suggest weight-based dosing (**Grade 2C**). In patients with severe renal insufficiency (creatinine clearance [CrCl] < 30 mL/min) who require therapeutic anticoagulation, the guideline developers suggest the use of unfractionated heparin (UFH) instead of LMWH (**Grade 2C**). If LMWH is used in patients with severe renal insufficiency (CrCl < 30 mL/min) who require therapeutic anticoagulation, the guideline developers suggest using 50% of the recommended dose (**Grade 2C**).

Direct Thrombin Inhibitors

In patients who receive either lepirudin or desirudin and have renal insufficiency (CrCl < 60 mL/min but > 30 mL/min), the guideline developers recommend that the dose be reduced and the drug be monitored using the activated partial thromboplastin time (**Grade 1C**). In patients with a CrCl < 30 mL/min, the guideline developers recommend against the use of lepirudin or desirudin (**Grade 1C**). In patients who require anticoagulation and have previously received lepirudin or desirudin, the guideline developers recommend against repeated use of these drugs because of the risk of anaphylaxis (**Grade 1C**).

Monitoring of Direct Thrombin Inhibitors

In patients receiving argatroban who are being transitioned to a vitamin K antagonist (VKA), the guideline developers suggest that factor X levels, measured using a chromogenic assay, be used to adjust the dose of the VKA (**Grade 2C**).

Definitions:

Grading Recommendation			
Grade of Recommendation*	Benefit vs. Risk and Burdens	Methodologic Quality of Supporting Evidence	Implications
Strong recommendation, high-quality evidence, Grade 1A	Desirable effects clearly outweigh undesirable effects, or <i>vice versa</i>	Consistent evidence from RCTs without important limitations or exceptionally strong evidence from observational studies	Recommendation can apply to most patients in most circumstances; further research is very unlikely to change our confidence in the estimate of effect
Strong recommendation, moderate-quality evidence, Grade 1B	Desirable effects clearly outweigh undesirable effects, or <i>vice versa</i>	Evidence from RCTs with important limitations (inconsistent results, methodologic flaws, indirect or imprecise), or very strong evidence from observational studies	Recommendation can apply to most patients in most circumstances; higher quality research may well have an important impact on our confidence in the estimate of effect and may change the estimate
Strong recommendation, low or very low-quality evidence, Grade 1C	Desirable effects clearly outweigh undesirable effects, or <i>vice versa</i>	Evidence for at least one critical outcome from observational studies, case series, or from RCTs with serious flaws or indirect evidence	Recommendation can apply to most patients in many circumstances; higher-quality research is likely to have an important impact on our confidence in the estimate of effect and may well change the estimate
Weak recommendation, high-quality evidence, Grade 2A	Desirable effects closely balanced with undesirable effects	Consistent evidence from RCTs without important limitations or exceptionally strong evidence from observational studies	The best action may differ depending on circumstances or patient or society values; further research is very unlikely to change our confidence in the estimate of effect
Weak recommendation, moderate-quality evidence, Grade 2B	Desirable effects closely balanced with undesirable effects	Evidence from RCTs with important limitations (inconsistent results, methodologic flaws, indirect or	Best action may differ depending on circumstances or patient or society values; higher-quality research may well have an important impact on our

Grading Recommendation			
Grade of Recommendation*	Benefit vs. Risk and Burdens	Methodologic Quality of Supporting Evidence	Implications
		imprecise), or very strong evidence from observational studies	confidence in the estimate of effect and may change the estimate
Weak recommendation, low or very low-quality evidence, Grade 2C	Desirable effects closely balanced with undesirable effects	Evidence for at least one critical outcome from observational studies, case series, or from RCTs with serious flaws or indirect evidence	Other alternatives may be equally reasonable; higher-quality research is likely to have an important impact on our confidence in the estimate of effect and may well change the estimate

*The guideline developers use the wording *recommend* for strong (Grade 1) recommendations and *suggest* for weak (Grade 2) recommendations.

CLINICAL ALGORITHM(S)

None provided

EVIDENCE SUPPORTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS

TYPE OF EVIDENCE SUPPORTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS

The type of supporting evidence is identified and graded for each recommendation (see "Major Recommendations").

BENEFITS/HARMS OF IMPLEMENTING THE GUIDELINE RECOMMENDATIONS

POTENTIAL BENEFITS

Appropriate monitoring and management of patients who require treatment with parenteral anticoagulants

POTENTIAL HARMS

- The risk of heparin-associated bleeding increases with heparin dose and with concomitant administration of fibrinolytic agents or glycoprotein IIb/IIIa inhibitors. The risk of bleeding also is increased by recent surgery, trauma, invasive procedures, or concomitant hemostatic defects. Investigators have reported a relationship between the dose of heparin administered and both its efficacy and safety.

- In addition to hemorrhagic complications, heparin has limitations based on its pharmacokinetic properties; its ability to induce immune-mediated platelet activation, which can lead to heparin-induced thrombocytopenia (HIT) and its effect on bone metabolism, which can lead to osteoporosis. Other nonhemorrhagic side effects are very uncommon and include skin reactions that can progress to necrosis, alopecia, and hypersensitivity. Heparin therapy also can cause elevations of serum transaminases. This phenomenon is benign and not associated with liver disease.
- Heparin and low-molecular weight heparin (LMWH) can cause urticarial skin reactions. Rarely, skin necrosis can occur at injection sites. In these cases, HIT should be suspected.

QUALIFYING STATEMENTS

QUALIFYING STATEMENTS

Limitations of These Guideline Development Methods

Limitations of these guidelines include the limited quantity and quality of available studies for some patient groups. Second, it is possible that some authors followed this methodology more closely than others, although the development process was centralized by an evidence-based practice center (EPC) and supervised by the editors. Third, it is possible that the guideline developers missed relevant studies in spite of the comprehensive searching process. Fourth, despite their efforts to begin centralizing the methodologic evaluation of all studies to facilitate uniformity in the validity assessments of the research incorporated into these guidelines, resources were insufficient to conduct this evaluation for all but a few of the recommendations in each chapter. Fifth, the guideline developers performed only few statistical pooling exercises of primary study results. Finally, sparse data on patient preferences and values represent additional limitations inherent to most guideline development methods.

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GUIDELINE

DESCRIPTION OF IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

An implementation strategy includes local educational programs and tools offered through the American College of Chest Physicians (ACCP) Board of Governors and select other locations. The Veterans Administration (VA) will also participate in a pilot project.

IMPLEMENTATION TOOLS

Resources

For information about [availability](#), see the "Availability of Companion Documents" and "Patient Resources" fields below.

INSTITUTE OF MEDICINE (IOM) NATIONAL HEALTHCARE QUALITY REPORT CATEGORIES

IOM CARE NEED

Getting Better
Living with Illness
Staying Healthy

IOM DOMAIN

Effectiveness
Safety

IDENTIFYING INFORMATION AND AVAILABILITY

BIBLIOGRAPHIC SOURCE(S)

Hirsh J, Bauer KA, Donati MB, Gould M, Samama MM, Weitz JI. Parenteral anticoagulants: American College of Chest Physicians Evidence-Based Clinical Practice Guidelines (8th Edition). Chest 2008 Jun;133(6 Suppl):141S-59S. [214 references] [PubMed](#)

ADAPTATION

Not applicable: The guideline was not adapted from another source.

DATE RELEASED

2008 Jun

GUIDELINE DEVELOPER(S)

American College of Chest Physicians - Medical Specialty Society

SOURCE(S) OF FUNDING

American College of Chest Physicians

GUIDELINE COMMITTEE

American College of Chest Physicians (ACCP) Expert Panel on Antithrombotic and Thrombolytic Therapy

COMPOSITION OF GROUP THAT AUTHORED THE GUIDELINE

Primary Authors: Jack Hirsh, MD, FCCP; Kenneth A. Bauer, MD; Maria B. Donati, MD, PhD; Michael Gould, MD, FCCP; Meyer M. Samama, MD; Jeffrey I. Weitz, MD, FCCP

Committee Co-Chairs: Jack Hirsh, MD, FCCP (*Chair*); Gordon H. Guyatt, MD, FCCP; Gregory W. Albers, MD; Robert A. Harrington, MD, FCCP; Holger J. Schünemann, MD, PhD, FCCP

Participants: Giancarlo Agnelli, MD; Pierre Amarenco, MD; Jack E. Ansell, MD; Collin Baigent; Shannon M. Bates, MD; Kenneth A. Bauer, MD; Richard C. Becker, MD; Peter B. Berger, MD; David Bergqvist, MD, PhD; Rebecca J. Beyth, MD; Christopher P. Cannon, MD; Elizabeth A. Chalmers, MB, ChB, MD; Anthony K.C. Chan, MBBS; Clifford W. Colwell, Jr., MD; Anthony J. Comerota, MD; Deborah Cook, MD; Mark A. Crowther, MD; James E. Dalen, MD; Gabrielle deVeber, MD, MHSc; Maria Benedetta Donati, MD, PhD; James D. Douketis, MD; Andrew Dunn, MD; J. Donald Easton, MD; Michael Ezekowitz, MD; Margaret Fang; William H. Geerts, MD, FCCP; Alan S. Go, MD; Samuel Z. Goldhaber, MD, FCCP; Shaun D. Goodman, MD; Michael Gould, MD, FCCP; Ian A. Greer, MD; Andreas Greinacher, MD; David Gutterman, MD, FCCP, HSP; Jonathan L. Halperin, MD; John A. Heit, MD; Elaine M. Hylek, MD; Alan Jacobson, MD; Roman Jaeschke, MD, PhD; Amir K. Jaffer, MD; Susan Kahn; Clive Kearon, MBCh, PhD; Fenella Kirkham, MBCh; Andreas Koster, MD, PhD; Michael R. Lassen, MD; Mark N. Levine, MD, MSc; Sandra Zelman Lewis, PhD; A. Michael Lincoff, MD; Gregory YH Lip, MD; Christopher Madias, MD; Warren J. Manning, MD; Daniel B. Mark, MD; M. Patricia Massicotte, MD, MSc; David Matchar, MD; Thomas W. Meade, DM, FCCP; Venu Menon, MD; Tracy Minichiello, MD; Paul Monagle, MBBS, MSc, MD, FCCP; Christopher M. O'Connor, MD; Patrick O'Gara, MD; E. Magnus Ohman, MD; Ingrid Pabinger, MD; Gualtiero Palareti, MD; Carlo Patrono, MD; Stephen G. Pauker, MD; Graham F. Pineo, MD; Jeffrey J. Popma, MD; Gary Raskob, PhD; Gerald Roth, MD; Ralph L. Sacco, MD; Deeb N. Salem, MD, FCCP; Charles-Marc Samama, MD, FCCP; Meyer Michel Samama, MD; Sam Schulman, MD, PhD; Daniel Singer, MD; Michael Sobel, MD; Shoshanna Sofaer, DrPH; Alex C. Spyropoulos, MD FCCP; Ph. Gabriel Steg, MD; Philip Teal, MD; Raymond Verhaeghe, MD; David A. Vorchheimer, MD; Theodore E. Warkentin, MD; Jeffrey Weitz, MD

FINANCIAL DISCLOSURES/CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Dr. Hirsh discloses that he has received partial support for writing two books, one on Fondaparinux and one on low-molecular-weight heparin.

Dr. Bauer discloses that he received consultant fees from GlaxoSmithKline, Bayer Healthcare, Pfizer, Eisai, and Bristol-Myers Squibb. He is on the speakers bureau for GlaxoSmithKline and Sanofi-Aventis, and has assisted the advisory committees of Bayer Healthcare and Bristol-Myers Squibb. Dr. Bauer is also in a fiduciary position for the International Society on Thrombosis and Haemostasis.

Professor Donati reveals no real or potential conflicts of interest or commitment.

Dr. Gould reveals no real or potential conflicts of interest or commitment.

Dr. Samama discloses that he has received grant monies from Novo Nordisk, Sanofi, and Pfizer. He has received consultant fees from Pfizer. Dr. Samama has served on the speakers bureau of Boehringer Ingelheim and Sanofi, and has assisted advisory committees of BMS, AstraZeneca, Bayer, GlaxoSmithKline, and Mitsubishi.

Dr. Weitz discloses that he has received consultant fees from AstraZeneca, The Medicines Company, Schering-Plough, Bayer, Bristol-Myers Squibb, and Merck AG. He has served on an advisory committee for Eisai, Daiichi-Sankyo, Schering-Plough, Bristol-Myers Squibb, Sanofi-Aventis, and SmithKline Beecham.

ENDORSER(S)

American College of Clinical Pharmacy - Medical Specialty Society
American Society of Health-System Pharmacists - Professional Association

GUIDELINE STATUS

This is the current release of the guideline.

GUIDELINE AVAILABILITY

Electronic copies: Available to subscribers of the [Chest - The Cardiopulmonary and Critical Care Journal](#).

Print copies: Available from the American College of Chest Physicians, Products and Registration Division, 3300 Dundee Road, Northbrook IL 60062-2348.

AVAILABILITY OF COMPANION DOCUMENTS

The following are available:

Executive Summary:

- Antithrombotic and thrombolytic therapy executive summary. Chest 2008 Jun; 133:71S-109S.

Background Articles:

- Antithrombotic and thrombolytic therapy. Chest 2008 Jun; 133:110S-112S.
- Methodology for antithrombotic and thrombolytic therapy guideline development. Chest 2008 Jun; 133:113S-122S.
- Grades of recommendation for antithrombotic agents. Chest 2008 Jun; 133:123S-131S.
- Strategies for incorporating resource allocation and economic considerations. Chest 2008 Jun; 133:132S-140S.

Electronic copies: Available to subscribers of the [Chest - The Cardiopulmonary and Critical Care Journal](#).

Print copies: Available from the American College of Chest Physicians, Products and Registration Division, 3300 Dundee Road, Northbrook IL 60062-2348.

PATIENT RESOURCES

None available

NGC STATUS

This NGC summary was completed by ECRI Institute on December 2, 2008. The information was verified by the guideline developer on January 7, 2009.

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Date Modified: 2/16/2009

