

■ **Nadroparin calcium effectively prevents deep vein thrombosis (DVT)** in patients with acute decompensated chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), say researchers from France. In this study, 221 patients requiring mechanical ventilation for acute decompensated COPD were randomised to receive SC nadroparin calcium ['Fraxiparine'] 3800 or 5700IU once daily (depending on bodyweight; n = 109) or placebo. The mean durations of therapy were 11.9 and 11.4 days in the respective treatment groups. Significantly fewer nadroparin calcium, compared with placebo, recipients developed DVT (15.5 vs 28.2%). The incidences of haemorrhage, overall adverse events and death were similar in the 2 treatment groups.

Fraisse F, et al. Nadroparin in the prevention of deep vein thrombosis in acute decompensated COPD. *American Journal of Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine* 161: 1109-1114, Apr 2000

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