

■ **Outpatient dalteparin sodium therapy for perioperative anticoagulation may significantly reduce hospitalisation**, relative to inpatient therapy with IV unfractionated heparin, in patients at high risk of thrombosis who require long-term oral anticoagulant therapy, say clinicians from Canada. In 24 patients who required reversal of oral warfarin anticoagulation so that surgical procedures could be performed, SC dalteparin sodium was administered at a median dose of 15 000 units each morning for a median of 2 days preoperatively and 3 days postoperatively. All patients achieved an international normalised ratio of  $> 1.9$  between 2 and 8 (median 4) days after surgery. A median of 4 days of hospitalisation was prevented per patient.

Tinmouth AH, et al. Dalteparin as periprocedure anticoagulation for patients on warfarin and at high risk of thrombosis. *Annals of Pharmacotherapy* 35: 669-674, Jun 2001 800874831