

Dalteparin sodium effective in upper extremity DVT

The low molecular weight heparin dalteparin sodium is *'safe and effective'* in the treatment of patients with upper extremity deep vein thrombosis (DVT), report researchers from Canada. In addition, they note that *'there is a potential for substantial cost savings with treatment on an outpatient basis'*.

In this study, 46 such patients received SC dalteparin sodium 200 aXa U/kg once daily for ≥ 5 days on an outpatient basis. Treatment with oral anticoagulants was also initiated where possible. Patients were followed up for 12 weeks.

Only one patient experienced DVT recurrence and there were no cases of pulmonary embolism. In addition, no patient experienced bleeding associated with dalteparin sodium therapy.

Savage KJ, Wells PS, Schulz V, Goudie D, Morrow B, et al. Outpatient use of low molecular weight heparin (dalteparin) for the treatment of deep vein thrombosis of the upper extremity. *Thrombosis and Haemostasis* 82: 1008-1010, Sep 1999

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