



<p>Team Name: Pharmacy and Therapeutics</p> <p>Team Lead: Director - Pharmacy</p> <p>Approved by: Regional Lead - Medical Services & Chief Medical Officer</p>	<p>Reference Number: CLI.6010.SG.004</p> <p>Program Area: Pharmacy</p> <p>Policy Section: General</p>
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Use of pre-printed documents: Users are to refer to the electronic version of this document located on the Southern Health-Santé Sud Health Provider Site to ensure the most current document is consulted.

STANDARD GUIDELINE SUBJECT:

Anticoagulation for Venous Thromboembolism (Deep Vein Thrombosis and Pulmonary Embolism)

PURPOSE:

Venous thromboembolism (VTE) is one of the most common complications of hospitalization and the most common preventable cause of hospital death. Use of standard treatment forms to help insure medications are prescribed and administered properly. Heparin infusions and dalteparin injections are commonly used in the treatment of acute VTE.

DEFINITIONS:

Venous thromboembolism (VTE): Is a thromboembolic event (“blood clot”) that develops within the venous system and includes deep vein thrombosis and pulmonary embolism.

Deep venous thrombosis (DVT): Is a thrombus occurring in one or more deep veins, especially in the legs, where it may produce leg swelling and/or pain.

Pulmonary embolism (PE): Is a thrombus that arises in a deep vein and that embolizes to one or more of the pulmonary arteries where it may result in breathlessness, chest pain, hemoptysis, syncope or death.

IMPORTANT POINTS TO CONSIDER:

Heparin infusions limited to regional sites with 24/7 lab access on site where aPTT monitoring can take place. Note: Heparin continuous infusion may be initiated with the direction of a prescriber before the patient is transferred to a site that can measure aPTT.

PROCEDURE:

As clinically appropriate, initiate the Heparin Infusion Standard Orders: Venous Thromboembolism (DVT/PE) – CLI.6010.SG.004.FORM.01 or Dalteparin Standard Orders: Treatment of Venous Thromboembolism (DVT/PE) – CLI.6010.SG.004.FORM.02 in clients with a diagnosis or suspect diagnosis of VTE. Use the Heparin IV Infusion Flowsheet – CLI.6010.SG.004.FORM.03 to document titrations and for the independent double check signature.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:

[CLI.6010.SG.004.FORM.01](#) Heparin Infusion Standard Orders: Venous Thromboembolism (DVT/PE)

[CLI.6010.SG.004.FORM.02](#) Dalteparin Standard Orders: Treatment of Venous Thromboembolism (DVT/PE)

[CLI.6010.SG.004.FORM.03](#) Heparin IV Infusion Flowsheet