WEBSITE REVIEW

‘Thrombosis Clinic’
www.thrombosisclinic.com

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Comprehensive information relating to thromboembolism treatment and prevention for healthcare practitioners can be found at The Thrombosis Clinic online at <http://www.thrombosisclinic.com>.

ThrombosisClinic.com is an educational web site for healthcare practitioners with an interest in the prevention and management of thrombosis, a leading challenge in healthcare. ThrombosisClinic.com aims to be a primary resource for thrombosis education and provides daily updates from leading experts, treatment advances, and educational tools and materials to answer practical questions.

An Advisory Council known as TRACK (Thrombosis Resource for the Advancement of Clinical Knowledge) supports educational initiatives on ThrombosisClinic.com. The TRACK advisory council is made up of several Doctors from a variety of specialties including Emergency Medicine, Orthopaedic Surgery, Cardiology, and Pharmacology. The goal of TRACK is to educate healthcare practitioners across multiple specialties on emerging approaches to diagnosis, prophylaxis, and treatment of thrombosis.

Thrombosisclinic.com has many features beneficial to the healthcare practitioner such as up to date news articles and hot topics some specifically aimed at health care professionals within primary healthcare teams and settings. For instance currently an article is featured providing treatment updates for nurses. “Prevention and Treatment of Venous Thromboembolism: An Update for Nurses” edited by Sandra Sieck, RN, focuses on the magnitude of venous thromboembolism, including deep vein thrombosis and pulmonary embolism, as a preventable clinical problem associated with morbidity and mortality.

Additionally healthcare workers in a pre-hospital setting are targeted in “ST-segment recovery in patients with ST-elevation myocardial infarction (STEMI) re-perfused by pre-hospital fibrinolysis, pre-hospital initiated facilitated PCI or primary PCI” by Thiele, Scholz, Sick, Boudriot, Niebauer & Schuler. The authors provide information regarding the early intervention and effectiveness of pre-treatment for STEMI patients finding that the highest percentage of complete recovery was made by patients receiving pre-hospital – initiated facilitated percutaneous coronary intervention.

“Thromboembolic Complications in Trauma Patients”, a book chapter by Dr Margaret Knudson is available for review. Dr Knudson reviews the pathophysiology of thromboembolic complications post-trauma, including risk factors and mechanical and pharmacological prophylactic measures. Dr Knudson aims to develop a better understanding of thromboembolic events relating to trauma, to better identify patients at risk, and to prevent these complications from occurring. Educational programs and literature such as this allow health care workers in a pre-hospital or emergency setting access to relevant and contemporary information to guide their practice.

Slide presentations are downloadable for review and currently listed are the following topics - Antithrombotic Therapy in the Management of Acute Coronary Syndromes, Thromboprophylaxis in Medical Patients, and Prevention of venous thromboembolism following surgery. These presentations and mini-lectures which can be downloaded or viewed online are a clear and comprehensive educational tool.

Self directed learning packages provide a significant tool for the enhancement of professional knowledge for health care workers. The Thrombosisclinic.com educational materials provide an excellent opportunity to health care workers to improve their general knowledge base about thrombosis. The website allows for registered users to complete CME (Continuing Medical Education) accredited programs to enhance their thrombosis understanding and management.

Additional information can be found in the ‘Resource Room’ which details key literature, downloadable slide kits, and thrombosis related website links. The website is easily navigated and browsing requires only moderate internet skills. Registration which is free and requires a current email address, is required for access to some of the content. The website structure is presented logically and is appealing. Links are also provided for clinical trials and other websites with further information and keyword searching is available which is practical when seeking information on specific topics. General browsing is a little more difficult as there is no comprehensive a-z bibliography of research papers cited on the site.

While the content targets American healthcare providers, thrombosis is an international problem and the content of Thrombosisclinic.com is relevant for all healthcare professionals. Primary healthcare providers, such as a Registered Nurses or Paramedics, increasingly require rapid access to high quality, reliable and relevant information to guide their practice. Much of the most up to date information available to healthcare professionals can be found online and Thrombosisclinic.com provides a wealth of information on this important health issue.