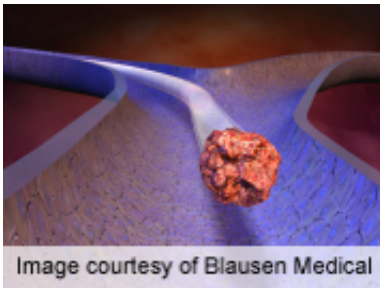


# Recommendations issued to prevent VTE in maternal patients

December 11 2013

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(HealthDay)—The Physician-Patient Alliance for Health & Safety, the Institute for Healthcare Improvement, and the National Perinatal Association have developed safety recommendations aimed at preventing venous thromboembolism (VTE) in maternal patients.

A panel of experts, brought together by the Patient-Physician Alliance for Health & Safety, developed VTE safety recommendations for prevention of VTE.

The safety recommendations include four steps: (1) patients should be evaluated for VTE risk using an easy-to-use automated scoring system; (2) depending on whether the mother is antepartum or postpartum, the recommended prophylaxis regimen should be provided; (3) the patient should be reassessed every 24 hours or upon occurrence of a significant

event such as surgery; and (4) upon hospital discharge, the mother should be provided with appropriate VTE prevention education.

"The risks of VTE are four to five times higher for pregnant [women](#) than for non-pregnant women," MaryAnne Laffin, N.P., immediate past president of the National Perinatal Association, said in a statement. "For the safety of pregnant women, the National Perinatal Association therefore encourages all hospitals to adopt these VTE safety recommendations."

**More information:** [More Information](#)

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