

Acute DVT Treatment

Duration of Therapy

- Anticoagulant therapy should begin ASAP
 - Minimum duration of treatment is **3 months**
 - extending anticoagulation beyond 3 months can be considered in select patients
 - *routine use of IVC filter is NOT recommended
- (unless the patient has a contraindication to anticoagulant therapy)

Other therapies for DVT Management

- early ambulation -- safe and should be encouraged
- Compression stockings to prevent post-thrombotic syndrome (PTS)
 - *evidence is conflicting in terms of recommendations
 - *generally considered safe AFTER patient is anticoagulated for acute DVT
 - *start within 2 weeks of diagnosis and continue for 2 years (30-40 mmHg)

Inpatient versus outpatient therapy

Outpatient therapy is considered in the following situations:

- 1) the patient is ambulatory, stable, with normal vital signs
- 2) the patient is a low prior risk of bleeding
- 3) the patient does NOT have pre-existing ESRD
- 4) patient has access to healthcare, at-home support, and understanding to present to the hospital if the condition worsens