

Total (N = 144)

Knowledge Gaps and Variation in Practice Among US Hospitalists Regarding PICC-VTE

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Why is the position of the PICC tip checked after bedside PICC insertion? n (%)	
To decrease the risk of arrhythmia related to right-atrial positioning	108 (75)
To minimize the risk of VTE*	6 (4)
To ensure it is not accidentally placed into an artery	16 (11)
For documentation purposes (to reduce the risk of lawsuits related to line-insertion complications)	6 (4)
Unsure/Unknown	8 (6)
According to the 2012 ACCP Guidelines on VTE prevention, is pharmacologic prophylaxis for DVT recommended in patients who receive long-term PICCs? n (%)	
No; no anticoagulant prophylaxis is recommended for patients who receive long-term PICCs*	107 (74)
Yes, but the choice and duration of anticoagulant is at the discretion of the provider	23 (16)
Yes; aspirin is recommended for ≥ 3 months	4 (3)
Yes; anticoagulation with warfarin or enoxaparin is recommended for 3 months	3 (2)
Yes; anticoagulation with warfarin or enoxaparin is recommended for 6 months	2 (1)
Unknown	5 (4)
Assuming no contraindications exist, do you anticoagulate patients who develop a PICC-associated DVT (with any therapeutic anticoagulant)? n (%)	
Yes*	122 (85)
No	16 (11)
Unknown	6 (4)
How long do you usually prescribe anticoagulation for patients who develop PICC-associated DVT? n (%)	
I don't prescribe anticoagulation	12 (8)
1 month	4 (3)
3 months*	84 (58)
6 months	8 (6)
As long as the line remains in place; I stop anticoagulation once the PICC comes out	3 (2)
As long as the line remains in place and for an additional specified period of time after line removal, such as 2 or 4 weeks	27 (19)
Unknown	6 (4)
As part of the treatment of PICC-related DVT, do you routinely remove the PICC?† n (%)	
Yes	102 (71)
No	36 (25)
Unknown	6 (4)