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In this 2 issue volume of The HITH Review we provided commentaries on range of published articles relevant to HITH practitioners and list a large number of interesting articles. These include two studies on fondaparinux, the first synthetic pentasaccharide antithrombotic compared to either unfractionated heparin or enoxaparin in the management of pulmonary embolus and in the initial treatment of deep vein thrombosis. Another interesting article listed in The HITH Review and available online from the British Medical Journal is a systematic review of randomised controlled trials of HITH for acute exacerbations of COPD.

Most of the articles listed in this review are available either from libraries in Australia or journal websites. Copies of articles with an asterisk (★) required for educational or research purposes can be requested from ACA when they are not available from your library. When ordering articles from ACA please use the order form available on our website.

We appreciate receiving your feedback on The HITH Review and would particularly welcome any contributions.

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Benzylpenicillin infusion stability

Alex Padiglione

Vella-Brincat JWA et al. *Stability of benzylpenicillin during continuous home intravenous therapy*. J Antimicrob Chemother 2004; 53:675-7. ★

This study aimed to look at the stability of benzylpenicillin in the real life setting, examining this issue in a number of ways:

- The temperature within the bags of real patients varied widely over the course of the day (between 17-34 degrees!)
- That elevated temperatures could rapidly accelerate the degradation of penicillin infusions (for example, at 36°C, less than 10% was left at 24 hours)
- That penicillin solution in bags worn by healthy volunteers to mimic real life, the penicillin degraded such that only 60% of the original amount was left after 24 hours.

comment

Continuous infusion of antibiotics at home has become an accepted part of medical practice. However this practice is based, in part, on data showing that such infusions are stable over the life of the infusion. Much of the data looking at degradation of antibiotics is derived from laboratory studies often performed under controlled conditions. The value of this study was that it tried to mimic the real life setting, and shows that degradation may be significantly greater than expected from the laboratory results. These findings are in contrast to some earlier studies in portable pump reservoirs, that showed better stability and the authors propose that differences in the solutions themselves, or possibly in study design, may account for these differences. The paper illustrates the need to support laboratory based studies with data from the real world. Caution should be used in administering penicillin as a continuous 24 hour infusion unless consideration has been given as to how to control for increased degradation due to temperature fluctuation.

Adrenaline for anaphylaxis

Alex Padiglione

McLean-Tooke APC et al. *Adrenaline in the treatment of anaphylaxis: what is the evidence?* Br Med J 2003; 327:1332-5. ★

Anaphylaxis is a severe life threatening reaction that can affect all age groups. The first line treatment is adrenaline (usually intramuscular, with intravenous for unresponsive or shocked patients). Early use is associated with improved outcomes. However there is considerable evidence that there is room for improvement in the education of both patients and staff about the use of autoinjectors.

comment

Anaphylaxis is a rare but dreaded complication of drug administration. As a result, it is standard practice for HITH programs to have developed policies regarding its management, most of which centre on the use of adrenaline. However this interesting review article summarises what is known about its use, and you may be surprised at how much is based on anecdote or expert opinion. Also interesting was the review of the lack of compliance/understanding of the use of autoinjectors. The authors also propose a useful algorithm for identifying patients who would benefit from an adrenaline autoinjector.

Readers should be aware of the VCACI guidelines for anaphylaxis in HITH.

Wound Care

Nick Santamaria

Doughty D. *Wound care challenges unique to home care*. Home Healthcare Nurse 2004; 22:75-8. ★

comment

This is not a research article but rather a brief summary of issues relating to the management of chronic wounds in the American home care environment. The author presents a number of useful strategies and suggestions relating to patient and carer engagement in the wound care process. Issues such as clarification of care goals, simplification of care plans and verifying carer understanding and skills. Similarly, suggestions are presented on how clinicians should ensure that patients and family carers are aware of the fiscal implications of the care episode. The author also presents organisational strategies for improving wound care effectiveness and cost efficiency. Overall this is a useful, brief article that is characteristic of much American home care wound management literature - practical, pragmatic, cost focussed and generally devoid of scientific evidence.

Computerised Wound Care System

Nick Santamaria

Coerper S et al. *Documentation of 7051 chronic wounds using a new computerized system within a network of wound care centers*. Arch Surg 2004; 139:251-8.★

This article describes a large multi-centre prospective analysis of the effectiveness of digital wound documentation and standardised chronic wound management guidelines in ten German wound care centres. The management of chronic wounds presents clinicians with significant challenges due to the complex nature of these wounds and the numerous published management guidelines. This study attempts to isolate factors, which are associated with positive wound healing in a large cohort of patients with chronic wounds. The authors also attempt to introduce standardised wound management protocols and digital data collection methods in the ten participating centres.

comment The digital imaging and documentation system developed for this trial (wu:du: 1.0) is briefly described and some wound screens are presented as pictures in the text to depict the digitisation of wounds, however no reliability or validity data on the system performance is presented. The system also appears to rely on manual tracing and subsequent digitisation to measure wounds. This approach may result in slow documentation processes as well as the potential for infection control issues. The results of the study clearly demonstrated the chronicity of the wounds treated (mean 433 days, range 14-1867 days) in the cohort. The results also indicated that patient compliance, age and wound depth all were significantly associated with healing rates. The major benefit of the study lies in the broad implementation of wound management guidelines across the trial sites. This has enabled the authors to derive a large sample on which to begin to explore the effectiveness of differing wound management techniques.

The nursing role in HITH

Jenny Silvers

Duke M, Street A. *Hospital in the home: constructions of the nursing role - a literature review*. J Clin Nursing 2003; 12:852-9.★

The authors have conducted a review of literature on the nurses' role in HITH programs. Only material published in the English language was included. The authors conclude that those who have written or researched acute care in the home have adopted an agenda that advances this care delivery model as a site for safe medical care delivered by expert nurses.

comment The literature that has been published by medical practitioners discusses acute home care in terms of clinical outcomes and the safety of new technologies and new generation medications. They are increasingly interested in the cost savings that can be generated from increased throughput and decreased bed days. The nursing literature is concerned with the way the nurse functions in the home.

The literature reviewed demonstrated that Hospital in the Home programs provides a safe, comfortable environment for a patient that is beneficial for healing.

Central venous access devices outcomes in home care

Jenny Silvers

Gorski L. *Central venous access device outcomes in a homecare agency*. J Infusion Nursing 2004; 27: 104-11.★

comment Over a 7-year period a survey was conducted of Central Venous Access Devices (CVAD) outcomes in a large urban home care agency. From the survey the reported outcomes include a low incidence of CVAD related infections, occlusions and other complications. The results from the survey on CVAD outcomes and the information gained from the survey have been used in staff education, improving the knowledge concerning the source of infection and identification of patients who appear to be a higher risk of complications. A highlight of the survey was that patient education is important in reducing complication rates.

Relevant abstracts from Medline and Cinahl

Dale J et al. An evaluation of the west Surrey telemedicine monitoring project. *J Telemed Telecare* 2003; 9(Suppl):S39-41.★

A three-month pilot study of a home monitoring service for patients with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease was conducted. Fifty-five patients were recruited. Physiological data were transmitted to a monitoring centre daily. During the study, 36 exacerbations were reported, 29 (81%) were managed at home; the other 7 (19%) resulted in acute admission after emergency telephone calls. Although only a small number of patients were involved for a relatively short period of time, there was evidence of a substantial (approximately 50%) decrease in hospital admission rates. The service was highly acceptable to the patients.

Friedrich S et al. *Community and home care services provided to children with cancer: a report from the Children's Cancer Group Nursing Committee--Clinical Practice Group*. *J Pediatr Oncol Nurs* 2003; 20:252-9.★

A survey of home care providers was conducted by the US Children's Cancer Group Nursing Committee to: (a) assess the treatments, resources, and counselling services provided to children with cancer and (b) query what are their informational needs in servicing this specialised population.

The survey found that there are many chemotherapy, biotherapy, and supportive therapies being provided in the home. There are also variations in the experiences of the agencies and home care providers in delivering these services. There were numerous informational needs identified by the agencies. The survey results were discussed with the Clinical Practice Group and several themes were expressed: (a) safety, (b) protocol adherence, (c) making the home into a hospital, and (d) meeting the informational needs of the home care providers.

Larsson Kihlgren A et al. *Referrals from home care to emergency hospital care: basis for decisions*. *J Clinical Nursing* 2003; 12:28-36.★

Advanced medical care in the home setting for patients with severe illnesses is becoming more common. The aim of this study was to explore and compare the relationship between patients' perception of the quality of care and close family members' perception of this care as well as their perception of the patients' perception. Sixty-seven patients receiving advanced home care, 82 family members (54 matched patient +

family member pairs) participated. Data were collected using a short version of the quality from the patient's perspective questionnaire modified to advanced home care.

A high degree of perceptual congruence was found between patients and their family members. The similarity was also high between family members' own opinion and their appraisal of how the patient perceived the care. This did not apply to a subgroup of family members who met the patient \leq once/week.

Patients' and family members views on the quality of care are congruent if they meet every day (live together) and share the same everyday and care-related experiences.

Relevance to clinical practice: The findings of this study have important implications for clinical nursing practice. Family members' perception of the quality of care may be a valuable data source for nurses in the case of advanced home care if the patient and family member share the same everyday, care-related experiences, otherwise family members' perception tend to be more critical than those of the patients themselves.

List of Medline, Cinahl and other relevant published articles

Adverse Events

Madigan EA, Tullai-McGuinness S. *An examination of the most frequent adverse events in home care agencies*. *Home Healthcare Nurse* 2004; 22:256-62.★

Mirtallo JM. *Complications associated with drug and nutrient interactions*. *J Infusion Nursing* 2004; 27: 19-24.★

Neafsey PJ. *Interactive personal technology education program decreases adverse medication events*. *Home Healthcare Nurse* 2003; 21:697-8.★

Neafsey PJ. *Self-medication practices that alter the efficacy of selected cardiac medications*. *Home Healthcare Nurse* 2004; 22:88-108.★

Neafsey P. *Of blood, bones, and broccoli*. *Home Healthcare Nurse* 2004; 22:178-82.★

Wong BB, Ko GJ. *Neutropenia in patients receiving long-term cefepime therapy for osteomyelitis*. *Am J Health-Syst Pharm* 2003; 60:2229-32.★

Anaphylaxis

Hayman G et al. *Knowledge about using auto-injectable adrenaline: review of patients' case notes and interview with general practitioners.* Br Med J 2003; 327:1328.★

McLean-Tookey APC et al. *Adrenaline in the treatment of anaphylaxis: what is the evidence?* Br Med J 2003; 327:1332-5.★

Cardiac Failure

Chetney R. *The cardiac connecting program. Home care that doesn't miss a beat.* Home Healthcare Nurse 2003; 21:680-6.★

Clark A, Nadash P. *The effectiveness of a nurse-led transitional care model for patients with congestive heart failure.* Home Healthcare Nurse 2004; 22:160-2.★

Frantz AK. *Breaking down the barriers to heart failure. Patient self-care.* Home Healthcare Nurse 2004; 22:109-15.★

Gorski LA, Johnson K. *A disease management program for heart failure. Collaboration between a home care agency and a care management organization.* Lippincott's Case Management 2003; 8:265-73.★

Gorski LA, Johnson K. *A disease management program for heart failure. Collaboration between a home care agency and a care management organization.* Home Healthcare Nurse 2003; 21: 734-44.★

Patel K et al. *Pharmacist participation in home health heart-failure programs.* Am J Health-Syst Pharm 2003; 60:2259-60.★

Quaglietti S et al. *Management of the patient with congestive heart failure in the home care and palliative care setting (Part two).* J Home Care Medicine 2003; 9-13.★ www.mmhc.com

Catheters & Devices

Bagnall-Reeb H. *Evidence for the use of the antibiotic lock technique.* J Infusion Nursing 2004; 27:118-22.★

Deacon V. *The safe medical device act and its impact on clinical practice.* J Infusion Nursing 2004; 27:31-6.★

Fernandez R et al. *Peripheral venous catheters.* J Infusion Nursing 2003; 26:388-93.★

Frey A. *Drawing blood samples from vascular access devices.* J Infusion Nursing 2003; 26:285-93.★

Gorski L. *Central venous access device outcomes in a homecare agency.* J Infusion Nursing 2004; 27: 104-11.★

Gowardman JR et al. *Central venous catheters: optimal patient care or convenience?* Med J Aust 2004; 180:595-6.★

Safdar N, Maki DG. *The pathogenesis of catheter-related bloodstream infection with noncuffed short-term central venous catheters.* Intensive Care Med 2004; 30:62-7.★

Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease

Ram FSF et al. *Hospital at home for patients with acute exacerbations of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease: systemic review of evidence.* Br Med J Online 2004; doi:10.1136/bmj.38159.650347.55.★

Steinel JA, Madigan EA. *Resource utilization in home health chronic obstructive pulmonary disease management.* Outcomes Management 2003; 7:23-7.★

Competency

Counce J. *Cultivating nursing competencies. Working with home health agencies for better infusion patient care.* Infusion 2004; 10:12-8.★

Duke M, Street A. *Hospital in the home: constructions of the nursing role - a literature review.* J Clin Nursing 2003; 12:852-9.★

Milone-Nuzzo P. *Clinical nurse specialists in home care.* Clinical Nurse Specialist 2003; 17:234-5.★

Rea K. *Home health certification. Recognition for specialty practice.* Home Healthcare Nurse 2003; 21:761-8.★

Complementary Therapies

Schmidt LM. *Herbal remedies: the other drugs your patients take.* Home Healthcare Nurse 2004; 22: 169-75.★

Continuous Infusions & Drug Stability Stability

McQuade MS et al. *Stability and compatibility of reconstituted ertapenem with commonly used IV infusion and coinfusion solutions.* Am J Health-Syst Pharm 2004; 61:38-45.★

Vella-Brincat JWA et al. *Stability of benzylpenicillin during continuous home intravenous therapy*. J Antimicrob Chemother 2004; 53:675-7.★

Cost Effectiveness

Parker G et al. *A systematic review of the costs and effectiveness of different models of paediatric home care*. Health Technol Assess 2002; 6:No 35.

Diabetes

Neder S, Nadash P. *Individualized education can improve foot care for patients with diabetes*. Home Healthcare Nurse 2003; 21:837-40.★

Drug Therapy & Medication Management

Neafsey P. *Self-medication practices that alter the efficacy of selected cardiac medications*. Home Healthcare Nurse 2004; 22:88-108.★

Wilder GL. *Medication safety in home infusion care*. J Infusion Nursing 2003; 26:311-8.★

Wilson K, Sullivan M. *Preventing medication errors with smart infusion technology*. Am J Health-Syst Pharm 2004; 61:177-83.★

Education and Training

Hammer J, Souers C. *Infusion therapy. A multifaceted approach to teaching in nursing*. J Infusion Nursing 2004; 27:151-6.★

Elderly Patients

Kobb R et al. *Assessing technology needs for the elderly. Finding the perfect match for home*. Home Healthcare Nurse 2003; 21:667-73.★

Mitka M. *Telemedicine eyed for mental health services. Approach could widen access for older patients*. JAMA 2003; 290: 1842-3.★

Neafsey PJ. *Interactive personal technology education program decreases adverse medication events*. Home Healthcare Nurse 2003; 21:697-8.★

Truglio-Londrigan M, Gallagher L. *Using the seven A's to determine older adults' community resource needs*. Home Healthcare Nurse 2003; 21:827-31.★

Emergency Department

Larsson Kihlgren A et al. *Referrals from home care to emergency hospital care: basis for decisions*. J Clinical Nursing 2003; 12:28-36.★

Immunoglobulin

Mendelsohn C, Riley P. *IGIV fundamentals for home care and alternate site therapy*. Infusion 2003; 9:35-8.★

Infections and Antibiotic Therapy

Briceland L. *IVP antibiotics*. Medscape Pharmacists 2003; 3(2).★
www.medscape.com/viewarticle/463403

Florea NR et al. *Cost analysis of continuous versus intermittent infusion of piperacillin - tazobactam: A time-motion study*. Am J Health-Syst Pharm 2003; 15:2321-7.★

Fung HB et al. *A practical guide to treatment of complicated skin and soft tissue infections*. Drugs 2003; 63:1459-80.★

Hadaway L, Chamallas S. *Vancomycin. New perspectives on an old drug*. J Infusion Nursing 2003; 26:278-84.★

Rayner C. *Vancomycin - digging bigger troughs?* J Pharm Pract Res 2003; 33:293-5.★

Samaha-Kfoury JN, Araj GF. *Recent developments in β lactamases and extended spectrum β lactamases*. Br Med J 2003; 327:1209-13.★

Wong BB, Ko GJ. *Neutropenia in patients receiving long-term cefepime therapy for osteomyelitis*. Am J Health-Syst Pharm 2003; 60:2229-32.★

Infection Control

McGoldrick Friedman M. *Infection control update for home care and hospice organizations*. Home Healthcare Nurse 2003; 21:753-8.★

Safdar N, Maki DG. *The pathogenesis of catheter-related bloodstream infection with noncuffed short-term central venous catheters*. Intensive Care Med 2004; 30:62-7.★

Infliximab

Stone WJ. *Comprehensive nursing approach to infliximab infusion therapy*. J Infusion Nursing 2003; 26:380-7.★

Line Complications

Fisher AA et al. *The use of alteplase for restoring patency to occluded central venous access devices in infants and children.* J Infusion Nursing 2004; 27:171-4.★

Mental Health

Magnusson A et al. *Reconstructing mental health nursing in home care.* J Advanced Nursing 2003; 43: 351-9.★

Mitka M. *Telemedicine eyed for mental health services. Approach could widen access for older patients.* JAMA 2003; 290: 1842-3.★

Miscellaneous

Harris MD, Levicoff J. *Volunteers, animals, & butterflies.* Home Healthcare Nurse 2003; 21:769-73.★

McCormick W. *Perspective on home care. The thoroughly rewarding experience of home health agency medical directorship.* Ann Long Term Care 2003; 11:36, 38-9.★

Nursing & Staffing

Flynn L. *Agency characteristics most valued by home care nurses.* Home Healthcare Nurse 2003; 21:812-6.★

Marrelli T. *The perfect storm of a staffing shortage: a practical roadmap for coping successfully.* Infusion 2003; 9:21-6.★

Oseland S, Querciagrossa A. *Collaboration of nursing and pharmacy in home infusion therapy.* Home Healthcare Nurse 2003; 21:818-24.★

Occupational Safety

Forst L et al. *Occupational safety of home health workers.* JAMA 2003; 290:3069-70.★

Paediatrics

Friedrich S et al. *Community and home care services provided to children with cancer: a report from the Children's Cancer Group Nursing Committee--Clinical*

Practice Group. J Pediatr Oncol Nurs 2003; 20:252-9.★

Parker G et al. *A systematic review of the costs and effectiveness of different models of paediatric home care.* Health Technol Assess 2002; 6:No 35.

Pain Management

Muonio P. *Pain control in the home. What have we learned?* Home Healthcare Nurse 2004; 22:185-9.★

Palliative Care

Burke K. *Palliative care at home to get further funds if it saves money.* Br Med J 2004; 328:544.★

Ford Pitorak E. *Hospice or home health - which does the patient need?* Home Healthcare Nurse 2003; 21:224-7.

Ford Pitorak E. *Respecting the dying patient's rights.* Home Healthcare Nurse 2003; 21:833-6.★

Larsson B et al. *Advanced home care: patients' opinions on quality compared with those of family members.* J Clin Nurs 2004; 13:226-33.★

Smith-Stoner M, Oliver M. *10 Palliative home care resources.* Home Healthcare Nurse 2003; 21:731-3.★

Parenteral Nutrition

linuma Y et al. *Whole-blood manganese levels and brain manganese accumulation in children receiving long-term home parenteral nutrition.* Pediatr Surg Int 2003; 19:268-72.★

Mirtallo JM. *Complications associated with drug and nutrient interactions.* J Infusion Nursing 2004; 27:19-24.★

Pironi L et al. *Safety and efficacy of home parenteral nutrition for chronic intestinal failure: a 16-year experience at a single centre.* Digest Liver Dis 2003; 35:314-24.

Patient Safety

Neafsey PJ. *Interactive personal technology education program decreases adverse medication events.* Home Healthcare Nurse 2003; 21:697-8.★

Neafsey PJ. *Self-medication practices that alter the efficacy of selected cardiac medications.* Home Healthcare Nurse 2004; 22:88-108.

Neafsey P. *Of blood, bones, and broccoli*. Home Healthcare Nurse 2004; 22:178-82. ★

Pharmacy

Cheong E, Ng K. *Home pharmacy service: three years experience*. J Pharm Pract Res 2003; 33: 212-5. ★

Low J. *Hospital in the home*. Aust J Pharm 2003; 84:854. ★

Oseland S, Querciagrossa A. *Collaboration of nursing and pharmacy in home infusion therapy*. Home Healthcare Nurse 2003; 21:818-24. ★

Patel K et al. *Pharmacist participation in home health heart-failure programs*. Aust J Health-Syst Pharm 2003; 60:2259-60. ★

Sirois PC, Maksym CJ. *Operational efficiency: Optimizing pharmacy support staff can save time and resources*. Infusion 2003; 9:12-7. ★

Quality, Outcomes, Indicators and Standards

Benefield L. *Implementing evidence-based practice in home care*. Home Healthcare Nurse 2003; 21: 804-9. ★

Dillon LR. *Innovation and creativity in quality management*. Infusion 2004; 10:33-7. ★

Duke M, Street A. *Hospital in the home: constructions of the nursing role - a literature review*. J Clin Nursing 2003; 12:852-9. ★

Kedrowski SM, Weiner C. *Performance measures in ambulatory care*. Nurs Econ 2003; 21:188-93. ★

McGoldrick Friedman M. *The joint commission's requirements for evaluation contracted home care services*. Home Healthcare Nurse 2003; 21:801-3. ★

McGoldrick Friedman M. *What's new in the 2004 joint commission home care and hospice standards? Part 2*. Home Healthcare Nurse 2004; 22:124-8. ★

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Waldo B. *Connecting for compliance. Improving satisfaction and care coordination by extending the home care record to the physician*. Home Healthcare Nurse 2003; 21:674-9. ★

Weiss R et al. *Signposts for compliance. A tool to assess homebound status*. Home Healthcare Nurse 2003; 21:774-7. ★

Sharps Disposal

Galloway K. *At-home sharps disposal causes concern. Coalition for Safe Community Needle Disposal*. Home Healthcare Nurse 2003; 21:722-3. ★ (See also: www.safeneedledisposal.org)

Telemedicine and Technology

Anonymous. *Releasing hospital beds with telemonitoring*. Br J Healthcare Comput Inform Management 2003; 20:28. ★

Anonymous. *Home health care in the 21st century: aging population and cost concerns drive demand for alternative patient care*. AARC Times 2003; 27:28-31. ★

Bergeron B. *Telemedicine in the practice setting. Infrastructure, not technology, limits practical application*. Postgrad Med 2003; 114:9-10. ★

Perry Britton B. *First home telehealth clinical guidelines developed by the American Telemedicine Association*. Home Healthcare Nurse 2003; 21:703-5. ★

Chetney R. *The American telemedicine association and home care*. Home Healthcare Nurse 2003; 21: 690. ★

Chetney R, Sauls E. *A picture speaks louder than words ... but a digital camcorder tells the whole story*. Home Healthcare Nurse 2003; 21:694-5. ★

Chetney R. *Home care technology and telehealth - the future is here!* Home Healthcare Nurse 2003; 21:645-6. ★

Clough K, Jardine I. *Telemedicine: five years on - what progress?* Br J Healthcare Comput Inform Management 2003; 20:21-3. ★

Dale J et al. *An evaluation of the west Surrey telemedicine monitoring project*. J Telemed Telecare 2003; 9(Suppl):S39-41. ★

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Hogue EE. *Telehealth and risk management in home health*. Home Healthcare Nurse 2003; 21: 699-701. ★

Kobb R et al. *Assessing technology needs for the elderly. Finding the perfect match for home*. Home Healthcare Nurse 2003; 21:667-73. ★

Mitka M. *Telemedicine eyed for mental health services. Approach could widen access for older patients.* JAMA 2003; 290: 1842-3.★

Sheyte R, Struk C. *What is data decision support and why should I care?* Home Healthcare Nurse 2003; 21:652-4.★

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Sutermaster DJ. *HPNA provides teleconferences for APNs, RNs, LP/VNs and nursing assistants.* Home Healthcare Nurse 2003; 21:832.★

Tweed S. *7 performance-accelerating technologies that will shape the future of home care.* Home Healthcare Nurse 2003; 21:647-50.★

Waldo B. *Connecting for compliance. Improving satisfaction and care coordination by extending the home care record to the physician.* Home Healthcare Nurse 2003; 21:674-9.★

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Thrombosis

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<http://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/463645>

Barclay L, Vega C. *D-Dimer helps rule out deep vein thrombosis.* Medscape. 2003.★
<http://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/461980>

Bates SM, Ginsberg JS. *Treatment of deep-vein thrombosis.* New Engl J Med 2004; 351:268-77.★

Beyth RJ. *Commentary: A 10-mg nomogram was more effective than a 5-mg nomogram for warfarin induction in outpatient venous thromboembolism.* ACP J Club 2003; 139:59.★

Buller HR et al. *Fondaparinux or enoxaparin for the initial treatment of symptomatic deep vein thrombosis. A randomised trial.* Ann Intern Med. 2004; 140:867-73.★

Eikelboom JW, Hankey GJ. *The beginning of the end of warfarin?* Med J Aust 2004; 180:549-51.★

Howard PA. *Low molecular weight heparins in special populations.* J Infusion Nursing 2003; 26: 304-10.★

Koopman MMW, Bossuyt PMM. *Low molecular weight heparin for outpatient treatment of venous thromboembolism. safe, effective, and cost reducing.* Am J Med 2003; 115:324-5.★

Murray E et al. *Training for patients in a randomised controlled trial of self management of warfarin treatment.* Br Med J 2004; 328:437-8.★

Neafsey P. *Of blood, bones, and broccoli.* Home Healthcare Nurse 2004; 22:178-82.★

Prandoni P. *Toward the simplification of antithrombotic treatment of venous thromboembolism.* Ann Intern Med 2004; 140: 925-6.★

Quinlan D et al. *Low-molecular-weight heparin compared with intravenous unfractionated heparin for treatment of pulmonary embolism.* Ann Intern Med 2004; 140:175-84.★

Torn M et al. *Lowering the intensity of oral anticoagulant therapy. Effects on the risk of hemorrhage and thromboembolism.* Arch Intern Med 2004; 164:668-73.★

Wound Management

Coerper S et al. *Documentation of 7051 chronic wounds using a new computerized system within a network of wound care centers.* Arch Surg 2004; 139:251-8.★

Doughty D. *Wound care challenges unique to home care.* Home Healthcare Nurse 2004; 22:75-8.★

Doughty DB. *Wound assessment: tips and techniques.* Home Healthcare Nurse 2004; 22:192-5.★

Doughty DB. *Four steps to successful chronic wound management.* Home Healthcare Nurse 2004; 22: 264-7.★

Doughty DB. *Why won't this wound heal, and what should I do about it?* Home Healthcare Nurse 2004; 22:18-22.★

Simon DA et al. *Management of venous leg ulcers.* Br Med J 2004; 328:1358-62.★

Wipke-Tevis DD, Sae-Sia W. *Caring for vascular leg ulcers.* Home Healthcare Nurse 2004; 22:237-47.★

Disclaimer:

Whilst every effort is made to reliably report the data and comments from the journal articles reviewed, no responsibility is taken for the accuracy of articles appearing in The HITH Review, and readers are advised to refer to the original papers for full details of the research.