



Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

ASHP Advantage Introduces Three New Case-Based Activities on Preventing Venous Thromboembolism

BETHESDA, MD, June 27, 2011 - ASHP Advantage has launched three new on-demand CE activities to provide a patient-case approach to educating health care professionals about the prevention of venous thromboembolism (VTE). Each activity focuses on a different patient population: medically-ill, surgical, and pediatric patients. Throughout these interactive activities, participants are guided through patient cases and receive immediate feedback on their clinical decision-making skills. Each activity is designed for the health care team and is accredited for pharmacists, physicians, nurses, nurse practitioners, and case managers.

These new activities are the latest offerings in a series of activities and resources introduced last year to increase the rate of thromboprophylaxis in hospitalized patients and promote the safe use of anticoagulants. This national initiative is designed to educate physicians, pharmacists, nurses, and case managers about preventing VTE as well strategies for improving patient care through a systems approach.

Despite the existence of evidence-based guidelines for thromboprophylaxis, VTE in at-risk patients continues to be a significant cause of patient morbidity and mortality. VTE is considered to be the most preventable cause of mortality in hospitalized patients. Perhaps more than any other class of medications, anticoagulation therapies require a systems approach. Experts recommend integrated, system-wide, interprofessional approaches that include interventions along the continuum of care, education of health care providers, measuring performance, and providing feedback.

The initiative, featured at www.StopVTE.org, was developed by an educational steering committee comprised of pharmacists, physicians, and other experts in VTE prevention and management and is supported by an educational grant from Ortho-McNeil, Division of Ortho-McNeil-Janssen Pharmaceuticals, Inc., administered by Ortho-McNeil Janssen Scientific Affairs, LLC.

For more information about this educational initiative, visit www.StopVTE.org.

About ASHP Advantage

Launched in 1995, ASHP Advantage specializes in developing customized educational activities to address identified educational gaps. As a division of ASHP, ASHP Advantage staff members stay apprised of key issues and trends shaping pharmacy practice and health care today. With access to the vast resources of ASHP and its membership, ASHP Advantage designs quality programs and projects for health care professionals. For more information about the services of ASHP Advantage, visit www.ashpadvantage.com.

About ASHP



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For more than 60 years, ASHP has helped pharmacists who practice in hospitals and health systems improve medication use and enhance patient safety. The Society's 35,000 members include pharmacists and pharmacy technicians who practice in inpatient, outpatient, home-care, and long-term-care settings, as well as pharmacy students. For more information about the wide array of ASHP activities and the many ways in which pharmacists help people make the best use of medicines, visit ASHP's Web site, www.ashp.org, or its consumer Web site, www.SafeMedication.com.

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