



Chronic Complications of Venous Thromboembolism (VTE)

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Summary: Most medical-surgical nurses are familiar with the risk of venous thromboembolism (VTE) in hospitalized patients, the strategies to prevent VTE, and treatment of VTE. Post-thrombotic syndrome and chronic thromboembolic pulmonary hypertension (CTEPH) are chronic complications of VTE that may not be as well-known. These complications create significant impact on the quality of life of the affected individuals. Post-thrombotic syndrome and CTEPH require life-long treatment and may lead to disability and financial strain due to the cost of treatment.

Nursing Implications:

- Medical-surgical nurses are the first line of defense in preventing VTE and the associated complications, as well as in treating those complications.
- Nurses can prevent VTE by providing prophylaxis as ordered.
- Nurses can help prevent complications of VTE by ensuring the patient is educated about the treatment, and through discharge planning to ensure that the patient has access to the treatment.

Key Takeaways:

- Post-thrombotic syndrome and CTEPH require life-long treatment.
- Post-thrombotic syndrome and CTEPH create significant impact on the patient's quality of life.
- Post-thrombotic syndrome and CTEPH may lead to disability.
- Post-thrombotic syndrome and CTEPH cause financial strain due to the cost of treatment.

Link: <https://library.amsn.org/amsn/sessions/3250/view>

References:

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