

Deep Vein Thrombosis Patient Education

Patient was educated on the risk of developing a blood clot in the deep veins of the legs or deep vein thrombosis (DVT). This complication is more likely after long surgical procedures, extended cast immobilization, or in patients that have a family history of DVT, or medications such as birth control.

While there is no standard of care in the medical literature for prevention of DVT, patients at risk should take precautions as directed by their surgeon. Such precautions may include medical treatment, daily mobilization, flying and long driving restrictions and compression therapy, and stop taking birth control medication while immobilized for surgical procedure.

DVT can be very dangerous if the clot breaks free from the legs, entering the lungs, and may result in hospitalization or even death. Be sure to contact your surgeon immediately if you experience swelling in your surgical leg, calf pain, or increased pain within the first 4 weeks after surgery.