

## **Efficacy of Direct Oral Anticoagulants in the Prevention of Recurrent Deep Vein Thrombosis in Obese Veterans versus Veterans of Normal Weight**

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An estimated 10-15% of patients who experience a Deep Vein Thrombosis (DVT) will have a recurrent event within 1 year. Without appropriate treatment this number is much higher. Per the 2016 guidelines, Direct Oral Anticoagulants (DOACs) (apixaban, rivaroxaban, edoxaban, & dabigatran) are the treatment of choice in patients with a BMI  $\leq 40$  kg/m<sup>2</sup> or weight  $\leq 120$ kg. Due to the exclusion of obese patients in the study of DOACs, they are not recommended in this population. Therefore, their treatment consists of warfarin, a vitamin K antagonist, which requires close laboratory monitoring.

The purpose of this study is to determine whether DOACS are as effective at preventing a recurrent DVT in obese Veterans as they are in Veterans of normal weight. Additionally, to determine the rate of major bleeding events in obese Veterans taking a DOAC.

This study will help providers make clinical decisions when prescribing anticoagulation for the prevention of recurrent DVT in obese Veterans.

Learning Objective:

- To assist providers in making clinical decisions when prescribing anticoagulation for the prevention of recurrent DVTs in obese Veterans.