

Management of Superficial Venous Thrombosis (SVT) and Phlebitis in Adults (non-pregnant) attending AEC

Treatment based on VTE Risk; **Low** – No anticoagulation **Intermediate** – Prophylactic anticoagulation **Elevated** – Therapeutic anticoagulation

Low Risk

- Phlebitis without evidence of thrombosis
 - Below knee SVT
 - Vein involvement ≤ 5 cm in length
- and**
- No medical risk factors for VTE



Low VTE Risk -> Symptom Control*

- NSAIDs
- Compression Stockings
- Topical Heparin Cream (OTC)

****Anticoagulated patients can discontinue NSAIDs if there is a concern for bleeding****

Intermediate Risk

- SVT in the GSV, AASV or SSV within 3-5cm from SFJ or SPJ
 - SVT in the GSV, AASV or SSV ≥ 5 cm in length
 - Low risk SVT that propagates with conservative management
- And**
- No medical risk factors for VTE



Intermediate Risk -> Prophylactic Anticoagulation

- Symptom control*
- Oral prophylactic- dose Rivaroxaban (10 mg daily) for 6 weeks

OR if DOAC not appropriate

- Prophylactic dose LMWH for 6 weeks duration

Elevated Risk

- SVT identified within <3 cm of SFJ, SPJ
- SVT that propagates despite prophylactic anticoagulation
- Recurrent SVT after cessation of anticoagulation

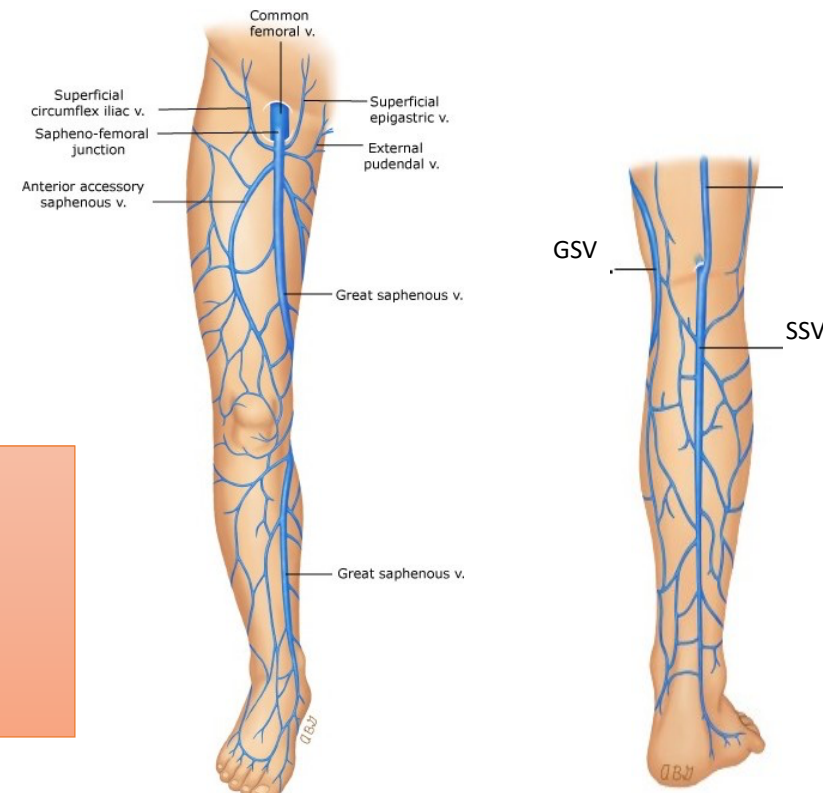
Or

- SVT in a patient with medical risk factors for VTE (eg, prior DVT, thrombophilia)



Elevated Risk -> Therapeutic Anticoagulation

- Symptom Control*
- Treat as DVT
- Refer to 'Thrombosis MDT'



Consider for all patients:

- Review if no improvement in symptoms at 1 week
- If recurrent unexplained lower limb SVT, consider referral to vascular team for assessment of Chronic venous insufficiency
- Patients with SVT and malignancy should be discussed with their oncologist
- Consider Trousseau syndrome as manifestation of malignancy

Key; GSV: great saphenous vein; AASV: anterior accessory saphenous vein; SSV: small saphenous vein; SFJ: saphenofemoral junction, SPJ: saphenopopliteal junction, OTC: Over the counter

References; Beyer-Westendorf J, et al; SURPRISE investigators. Prevention of thromboembolic complications in patients with superficial-vein thrombosis given rivaroxaban or fondaparinux: the open-label, randomised, non-inferiority SURPRISE phase 3b trial. *Lancet Haematol*. 2017 Mar;4(3):e105-e113. doi: 10.1016/S2352-3026(17)30044-5. Epub 2017 Feb 16. PMID: 28219082. Sherry Scovell, MD, FACS Section Editors: John F. Elib, MD; Joseph L. Mills, Sr, MD; Deputy Editor: Kathryn A. Collins, MD, PhD, FACS Up to date: Superficial vein thrombosis and phlebitis of the lower extremity veins, 2021. MTW Algorithm for management of Superficial thrombophlebitis (SVT) in adults, consultant haematologist 2019

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