FAQ’s in mechanical thromboprophylaxis

Kings College Hospital NHS Foundation Trust

Stephanie Rivera
VTE CNS
Objectives

• Describe the importance of appropriate mechanical thromboprophylaxis in VTE prevention

• Address frequently asked questions about mechanical thromboprophylaxis with evidence based answers
Mechanical compression
Getting the basics right…

- Legs should be measured and correct size of stocking is provided.
- Anti-embolism stockings should be fitted and patients / women shown how to use them by staff trained in their use.
- Anti-embolism stockings should be removed daily for hygiene and skin inspection purposes.
Skin damage related to anti-embolic stockings
Frequently asked questions…
For how long should the anti-embolic stockings be worn?
Which is more effective in VTE prevention, thigh-length or knee length AES?
For how long can anti-embolic stockings be removed?
Can anti-embolic stockings be used with patients / women who have leg wounds?
Can IPC be used instead of stockings in the presence of heel ulcers?
What do patients / women need to know before going home on anti-embolic stockings?
Thanks very much for listening! Any questions?