

The Council on Patient Safety in Women's Health Care Releases Maternal Venous Thromboembolism Bundle

The Council on Patient Safety in Women's Health Care brings partner and subspecialty organizations in Women's Health Care together with representative industry organizations with the central goal of improving health care for all women through multidisciplinary collaboration that drives culture change. Both the Society for Obstetric Anesthesia and the American Society of Anesthesiologists are members of the Council.

The Council on Patient Safety in Women's Health Care recently released the Maternal Venous Thromboembolism bundle. The bundle is a set of evidence-based recommendations for practice and care processes intended to improve patient outcomes. The bundle is organized into four domains: Readiness, Recognition and prevention, Response, and Reporting.

Obstetric anesthesiologists should be aware that the bundle calls for standardized recommendations for prophylactic and therapeutic anticoagulation, as well as standardized recommendations for the appropriate timing of pharmacologic prophylaxis with neuraxial anesthetic procedures. As many more parturients may be anticoagulated antepartum, or postpartum, it is important to have a multidisciplinary review of your institution's policies to minimize the impact of this bundle on your patient's access to neuraxial anesthesia.

The bundle (and other patient safety bundles pertaining to hemorrhage and severe hypertensive disease) can be found at the Council's website:

<http://www.safehealthcareforeverywoman.org/default.php>.