

Letters to the Editor

Compression Stockings May Reduce Postthrombotic Syndrome

To the Editor: Dr. Patel and colleagues' article about peripheral edema discussed venous thromboembolism as a potential etiology for peripheral edema.¹ In their discussion about the treatment of deep venous thrombosis, the authors suggest that compression stockings prevent the development of postthrombotic syndrome.¹ To clarify, the Cochrane review concluded that compression stockings "may" reduce the occurrence of postthrombotic syndrome; however, the review stated that the evidence for that recommendation is of low quality.² The 2020 American Society of Hematology guidelines for the management of venous thromboembolism recommended specifically against the routine use of compression stockings to prevent postthrombotic syndrome.³ Per the guideline, compression stockings "may help to reduce edema and pain associated with acute deep venous thrombosis in selected patients."³

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Author disclosure: No relevant financial relationships.

References

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Editor's Note: This letter was sent to the authors of "Peripheral Edema: Evaluation and Management in Primary Care," who declined to reply.

Long-Acting Injectable Clozapine Not Available in the United States

To the Editor: As a psychiatrist and family physician, I appreciated the excellent coverage of schizophrenia by Drs. Crawford and Go.¹ I agree that refractory schizophrenia should be treated with clozapine (Clozaril), often earlier during care than is commonly administered. However, clozapine is not available in the United States in a long-acting injectable form, although this would be a wonderful addition to our armamentarium. There are protocols in the U.K.'s Public Health Service for the use of intramuscular clozapine in treatment-refractory psychosis using an unlabeled injectable product made in the Netherlands and imported.² Clozapine is sometimes administered together with a long-acting antipsychotic in Canadian and U.S. clinics but is generally reserved for the most refractory patients and with close monitoring.³

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Author disclosure: No relevant financial relationships.

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Editor's Note: This letter was sent to the authors of "Schizophrenia," who declined to reply. ■

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This series is coordinated by Kenny Lin, MD, MPH, deputy editor.