

Adult – Understanding Thrombolytics and Anticoagulants

Course Description: This module is not a pharmaceutical reference, but it is a comprehensive guide to understanding how anticoagulants, Antiplatelets, and Thrombolytics work. It discusses the indications for Heparin, LMWH (Low Molecular Weight Heparin), and UFH (Unfractionated Heparin); plus the indications for using Antiplatelets, ASA and Glycoprotein IIb/IIIa Inhibitors, and Thrombolytic therapy. The course also presents special considerations when using Vitamin K Antagonists. The module will boost both knowledge and confidence when treating cardiac patients.

Course Objectives:

- Briefly describe how anticoagulants work
- Compare and contrast the indications for Heparin, LMWH (Low Molecular Weight Heparin), and UFH (Unfractionated Heparin)
- Discuss the indications and special considerations when using Vitamin K Antagonists
- Briefly describe how Antiplatelets work
- Compare and contrast ASA, Clopidogrel, and Glycoprotein IIb/IIIa Inhibitors
- Discuss the indications, contraindications, side effects and special considerations for thrombolytic therapy
- Describe the importance of bleeding precautions with thrombolytic patients