Anticoagulation Clinic fact sheet

What training is provided for the staff?

- Each Anticoagulation Clinic technician has been mentored by Dr. Eric Sontz, DCC's Medical Director of the Anticoagulation Clinic.
- Weekly training sessions have been provided by Dr. Sontz for the staff since March 2005, when DCC assumed responsibility for the clinic. The sessions focus on anticoagulation management and specific training is provided on DCC's physician-developed dosing protocols that the staff follows.
- The staff has attended numerous after-hours presentations by medical experts in anticoagulation management to enhance their knowledge.

What Certification or Credentialing has been attained?

- All staff have completed Basic Life Support (BLS) training sponsored by the American Heart Association.
- Our Anticoagulation technicians have completed a self-study Phlebotomy course through St Luke's Hospital in Kansas City and passed a proctored exam.
- All Anticoagulation technicians are certified as Phlebotomy Technicians by the State of California.
- Our senior technician is an L.V.N. and has completed an anticoagulation preceptorship through Loma Linda and an advanced anticoagulation course through Lovelace Medical Center of New Mexico. Our other two technicians and the supervisor of the clinic participated in an anticoagulation therapy management program hosted by the University of Southern Indiana.

What experience do the staff members have?

- Our Anticoagulation Clinic technicians have a minimum of 2 years of experience in the Anticoagulation Clinic; our senior technician has 7 years of experience.

What Physician oversight is provided?

- Every Protime/INR result and dosing schedule suggestion are reviewed and authorized by a physician on the same day as the Anticoagulation Clinic visit.
- The Medical Director of the Anticoagulation Clinic provides oversight to the clinic and is responsible for education and quality.
- Besides the patient's own physician, the Director of the Anticoagulation Clinic and a daily assigned "float" physician are available at all times to the staff to provide specific guidance and oversight.

Data/statistics

- DCC's Anticoagulation Clinic is one of the most active in the nation, managing over 2100 patients.
- Our advanced fingerstick equipment is much more comfortable for patients and gives accurate, fast results. We also accommodate patients who require or prefer venous punctures at outside labs, although typical lab turnaround time adds a delay to the care process.
- The staff uses both anticoagulation management tracking software and our practice's Electronic Medical Record to document every visit.
- The percentage of our patients maintained within their therapeutic range is monitored and is consistently well above published averages.