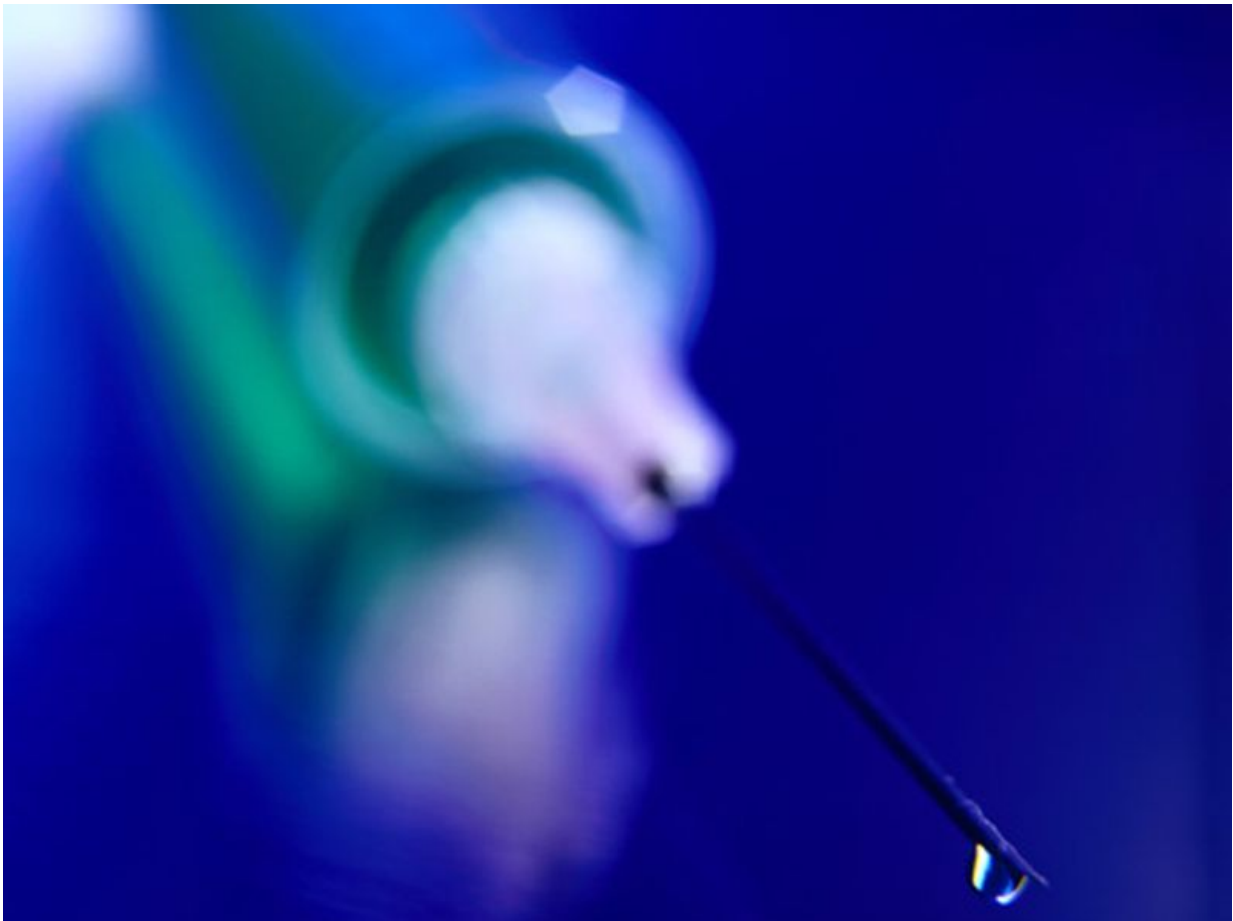


# Single-dose LMWH can interfere with algorithm for DVT diagnosis

December 22 2016

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(HealthDay)—A single dose of low-molecular-weight heparin (LMWH)

given the previous day can reduce D-dimer and potentially risk non-identification of a deep vein thrombosis (DVT), according to a research letter published online Dec. 15 in the *International Journal of Laboratory Hematology*.

Peter M. Baker and David M. Keeling, M.B., Ch.B., from the Oxford Haemophilia and Thrombosis Centre in the United Kingdom, examined whether a single dose of LMWH given in the community when a patient presented to their general practitioner too late in the day for referral would render the D-dimer algorithm unusable the following morning. Paired samples were collected for D-dimer estimation from 50 patients pre-administration of LMWH and on presentation to the DVT clinic the following morning.

The researchers found that the sample taken post-administration of a single dose of LMWH showed a significantly lower D-dimer, from 2,670  $\mu\text{g/L}$  to 2,274  $\mu\text{g/L}$  (16.4 percent reduction;  $P < 0.01$ ). Reduction in D-dimer crossed the normal range of

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