



children



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Thrombosis and Hemostasis in Children

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Message from the Guest Editors

Dear Colleagues,

Thromboembolic events in children have dramatically increased in the last decade and have become a major challenging problem in tertiary care settings. These thromboembolic events occur as secondary complications of improved treatment strategies for formal lethal underlying disorders in very young children, the most common risk factor being indwelling central venous or arterial catheters. Thromboembolic events also occur in older children with trauma, surgery, infections, malignancy, intake of oral contraceptives, immobilization, and in the presence of antiphospholipid antibodies or inherited thrombophilia. The epidemiology and pathophysiology of thromboembolic events as well as the hemostatic system in children differ substantially from those in adults. These differences make the application of strategies for the diagnostics, prophylactics, and treatment of thromboembolic events from adults to children not only inappropriate but also dangerous. For this reason, basic and clinical research in children is mandatory in order to advance knowledge of and ultimately to provide optimal, evidence-based care for pediatric thrombosis.



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