

## 6. Lovenox<sup>®</sup>, Fragmin<sup>®</sup> and other low molecular weight heparins

*Last Updated: 2/15/2004*

**Q1: Are there known side-effects after having been on Lovenox for over one year?**

A1: Bleeding and possibly osteoporosis.

**Q2: Is it possible to have a clot while on Lovenox, using the appropriate dosage level calculated against body weight?**

A2: Yes, it is possible, but uncommon. New blood clots (recurrence of DVT or PE) occur in approximately 2-5 % of patients treated with full dose LMWH.

**Q3: When measuring the effectiveness of Lovenox, does one run a PTT?**

A3: No. The PTT is only minimally prolonged by Lovenox and other low molecular weight heparins (= LMWHs) and is therefore not helpful. If one wants to measure the effectiveness of LMWHs, one needs to obtain an "anti-Xa level" (= "heparin level").

Lovenox belongs to the group of "low molecular weight heparins" (= LMWHs). Several LMWHs are on the market. While they differ a little pharmacologically, clinically they are all more or less equally effective and safe. In the US the following LMWHs are available:

- Lovenox (= Enoxaparin)
- Fragmin (= Dalteparin)
- Innohep<sup>®</sup> (= Tinzaparin)

Outside the US the following LMWHs are also available:

- Fraxiparin<sup>®</sup> (= Nadroparin)
- Clivarine<sup>®</sup> (= Reviparin)
- Monoembolex<sup>®</sup> (= Certoparin)