

PVRI
China
Task Force
Report
2020

...the Consensus Statement of Covid-19 related VTE was published in the Thrombosis and Hemostasis and Chinese Medical Journal.

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The Pulmonary Vascular Research Institute (PVRI) China Task Force continues its active participation in organising national and international conferences and educational courses on pulmonary vascular diseases (PVDs) aiming to extend and update the understanding of venous thromboembolic diseases (VTE), including pulmonary embolism (PE), deep venous thrombosis (DVT) and pulmonary hypertension (PH).

The PVRI China Task Force has supported international collaboration among Chinese physicians to exchange clinical experiences and to create future opportunities for international collaboration. This has led to joint publications of both clinical and translational science in PVD research in China.

The main activities include:

Implementing national strategies on PE-DVT and CTEPH programme

- 1 National Programme for Prevention and Management of Pulmonary Embolism and Deep Venous Thrombosis in China** (China VTE Prevention Programme). The Ministry of Health in China recognises the need for national policies to prevent and treat PE-DVT by implementing and ensuring that PE-DVT prevention and treatment is included into hospital assessments. Throughout the year more than 800 hospitals participated in the programme. The programmes aimed to help hospitals nationwide to establish a system for the prevention and management of PE-DVT by formulating strategies of thromboprophylaxis, and standardising the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of VTE.

The VTE prevention programme established in China could be a model which may be used throughout the developing world when managing VTE.

- 2 In addition, the China Task Force hosted a series of scientific conferences at national level to combat VTE.**
 - Formation of national multidisciplinary steering committee.
 - Standardisation of VTE prevention and management system. Promotion of guidelines and a user manual for VTE prevention and treatment.



- Recommendation of procedures for risk assessment, prevention, diagnosis and treatment of VTE.
- Application of information technology and quality control system.
- Education on VTE prevention and management

The Chinese Task Force supported 246 experts nationally from different fields to work together on the VTE prevention and treatment in support of 102 hospitals where they conducted an evaluation of the establishment of their system for VTE prevention and management. The areas of assessment included organisation and management, medical care and technique, education, and scientific research. The hospital visits led to an improved understanding of in-

hospital VTE prevention. Three sessions were organised at ten different hospitals. This led to an improved understanding of how to prevent VTE. The sessions attracted over 720 visitors from over 240 hospitals nationwide.

- 3** As an important part of the National VTE Prevention Programme, regional alliance were formed as an important task of developing regional VTE prevention programmes throughout China. Regional alliance have been established in 19 provinces including Beijing, Sichuan, Shanghai, Chongqing, Shaanxi, Fujian,



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Henan, Guizhou, Hebei, Yunnan, Gansu, Tianjin, Guangdong, Zhejiang, Jiangsu, Hunan, Hubei, Guangxi and the Jilin province. More than 1,800 individuals from different specialties attended the Conference of VTE Prevention in China and over 19,000 people participated in the meeting through a live broadcast.

- 4 To increase the awareness of thrombosis, some activities were conducted during the whole week of **13-16 October 2020** around World Thrombosis Day (13 October), including the awareness raising and education for patients and members of the public, MDT consultations for PE-DVT patients, social media activities aimed at increasing awareness of WTD and education programmes for physicians.
- 5 From **24-27 September 2020**, a CTEPH Master Class was held. This was conducted as a multicentre and multidisciplinary education platform for the diagnosis and management of pulmonary vascular diseases and organised through an on-line education programme at the China-Japan Friendship Hospital. More than 7000 attendees from 30 provinces in China participated in the education programme. This Master Class provided an excellent learning and communication opportunity for young physicians who have a growing interest in CTEPH.

Education courses of pulmonary vascular diseases (PVDs)

- 6 To celebrate **World Pulmonary Hypertension Day, on 5 May 2020**, physicians from different cities conducted an **on-line meeting** on a national scale to raise awareness of pulmonary hypertension. Staging various events involving both the scientific community and general public, more than 300 multidisciplinary physicians and 1,000 patients and family members participated in the activities from cities all over China. The issues of health education, social support, medical insurance and standardised treatment for Chinese pulmonary hypertension patients were discussed.
- 7 In addition, the Pulmonary Hypertension Academy, a multicentre and multidisciplinary education platform for diagnosis and management of pulmonary vascular diseases arranged a **1-week education programme in Beijing China**, which included the Peking Union Medical College, China-Japan Friendship Hospital, Peking Union Hospital, Beijing Fuwai Hospital, Beijing Anzhen Hospital, Beijing Chaoyang Hospital and Beijing Hospital. More than 20 young fellows from different parts of China participated in the education programme providing excellent learning and communication opportunities for young physicians who have an interest in pulmonary hypertension.
- 8 In **July 2020**, two education programmes on standardising the diagnosis and treatment of pulmonary vascular diseases were organised by the Chinese Medical Journal. These courses provided updates on several important aspects including

diagnosis and treatment of pulmonary hypertension, as well as a standardised operational procedure for imaging pulmonary hypertension. More than ten multidisciplinary physicians jointly explored and distributed some key points on the clinical practice of evaluating and managing pulmonary arterial hypertension in their patients.

- 9 The PE-PVD group from the Chinese Thoracic Society **established a multidisciplinary consultation platform** for the diagnosis and management of pulmonary hypertension and pulmonary vascular diseases providing support for individual diagnosis and treatment. Over 100 experts from 30 centres participated in the programme. The platform provided an excellent learning and communication opportunity for physicians.

National and international conferences of pulmonary vascular diseases

- 10 From **16-18 October 2020**, the **12th National Congress on Pulmonary Embolism and Pulmonary Vascular Diseases** and the **10th International Conference of Pulmonary Circulation Disorders** were held online in collaboration with the PVRI and Chinese Thoracic Council. The topics covered the most recently updated guidelines on pulmonary hypertension, CTEPH, venous thromboembolism (VTE) and especially the updated antithrombotics and prevention of thrombosis guidelines, which provided the latest knowledge of diagnosis, treatment and prevention of pulmonary embolism and pulmonary hypertension. The PVRI also helped enhance the educational programme during the meeting.
- 11 From **21-24 October 2020**, the **19th National Conference of the Chinese Thoracic Society** was held in Shenzhen, China. This meeting provided a platform of communication that ensured further progress in the diagnosis and treatment of pulmonary vascular diseases including pulmonary embolism and pulmonary hypertension for physicians, scientists, and other healthcare providers in China.
- 12 From **1 March-31 October 2020**, collaborations between the National PE-PVD Assembly and the Chinese Medical Association

led to several workshops of pulmonary vascular diseases. These were held in Beijing, Shanghai, Guangzhou, Shenyang, Dalian, Hangzhou, Nanjing and other areas. The topics covered the latest knowledge of diagnosis, treatment, and research of pulmonary hypertension for cardiologists and pulmonologists in South China. The workshops also covered the most updated guidelines and research on pulmonary hypertension.

COVID-19 and pulmonary vascular diseases and thromboembolic disease

- 13 From **February 2020 - July 2020**, the PVRI China Centre collaborated with colleagues from around the globe organising several symposia on the diagnosis, treatment and prevention of Covid-19 related thromboembolic diseases and pulmonary vascular diseases, covering topics in critical care issues of Covid-19, the management and the prevention and thrombotic and vasculature and complications related to Covid-19.
- 14 In **February 2020** and **April 2020**, the **Consensus Statement of Covid-19 related VTE** was published in the Thrombosis and Hemostasis and Chinese Medical Journal. Based on frontline practical experience and on a comprehensive literature review, a panel of experts and physicians from China and Europe developed an evidence and opinion-based Consensus Statement on the prophylaxis and management of VTE associated with Covid-19. This Statement aims to support clinicians treating Covid-19 patients and provides practical recommendations in detailed situations, for example, how to choose thromboprophylactic measures for patients with diverse severity of disease and bleeding risk, or recommendations on which type of anticoagulant should be prescribed. With limited experience on Covid-19 associated VTE, this expert Consensus Statement should be helpful for clinicians throughout the world.

The PVRI would like to express their thanks to the China Task Force for carrying such an immense array of activities during 2020 and for developing a Consensus Statement which will be helpful to clinicians throughout the world who treat COVID-19 patients.