



February 6, 2009

Dear DVT Participant:

Improving DVT Prevention, Detection, and Treatment in High-Risk Specialties was designed to give caregivers the knowledge and tools to help provide clinically-integrated VTE care that appropriately incorporates evidence-based medicine. Following your organization's participation in the *Improving DVT* series, The Research and Education Institute for Texas Health Resources **invites you to take part in an important research study that measures and monitors improvement in key aspects of VTE management.**

With the natural tendency to assume that actual performance is the same as intended performance, participation in this research study will provide valuable feedback to your organization. Participating organizations will collect minimal data from patient medical records to answer disease-specific questions about VTE prophylaxis and treatment procedures and plans. The goal of pre-post measurement is to determine the extent of improvement on key indicators addressed in the program. Our objective is to determine the relative value that education has in improving patient outcomes, determine system inefficiencies and errors that cause a gap between actual and intended performance, and track performance towards closing that gap. Participating organizations will receive periodic summary reports, comparing hospital performance to the aggregate performance and monitoring improvement over time. There is no cost to participate in this study, and, for a limited number of organizations, a stipend is available to assist with pre- and post-education data collection and submission.

Delivering consistent, evidence-based levels of VTE care is elemental to controlling utilization, containing costs, and ensuring better outcomes. If your organization is interested in participating in this important research study, or to learn more, please contact Scott Dahl at 469-484-9450 or scott.dahl@crmhealth.com. Thank you very much for your consideration.

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