



Thursday, February 20, 2015

## MMC Study Seeks Sufferers of Chronic Deep Vein Thrombosis

PORTLAND, Maine — Maine Medical Center Research Institute is conducting a study on patients with Deep Vein Thrombosis (DVT) that can result in a chronic condition called Post Thrombotic Syndrome (PTS). PTS consists of symptoms such as chronic pain, swelling, discoloration and skin ulceration that can have a significant lasting impact on quality of life.

DVT occurs when a blood clot or thrombus forms in one of the deep veins of the body, limiting blood flow. It usually occurs in the leg or pelvis area. If the clot isn't dissolved within a few weeks it becomes a Chronic DVT. The old blood clot can permanently damage both the vein and the valves that control blood flow in your legs creating PTS.

“We recognize that patients who develop blood clots are often impacted with a lower quality of life long after the event despite being treated with standard of care blood thinning. An estimated 50 percent of patients with Chronic DVT may develop PTS. There currently is no effective treatment for the relief of these symptoms,” said Dr. Paul Kim, “Our study on this subject will introduce participants to an alternative to living with PTS. By utilizing a clot-dissolving medication and minimally invasive treatments such as angioplasty for the scarred veins, there is early evidence to suggest this can effectively relieve what was once thought to be a permanent condition.”

For more information on the study or to find out if you are eligible to participate, go to [www.chronicdvtstudy.com](http://www.chronicdvtstudy.com) or call Anna Cloutier, R.N., at 207-396-8304.

**About Maine Medical Center** Maine Medical Center (MMC), recognized as the number-one ranked hospital in Maine by U.S. News and World Report for 2014-2015, is a complete health care resource for the people of Greater Portland and the entire state, as well as northern New England. Incorporated in

1864, MMC is the state's largest medical center, licensed for 637 beds and employing nearly 6,500 people. MMC's unique role as both a community hospital and a referral center requires an unparalleled depth and breadth of services, including an active educational program and a world-class biomedical research center. As a nonprofit institution, Maine Medical Center provides nearly 23 percent of all the charity care delivered in Maine. MMC is a member of the MaineHealth system, a growing family of health care services in northern New England. For more information, visit [www.mmc.org](http://www.mmc.org).

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