



THE SOCIETY FOR
VASCULAR TECHNOLOGY OF
GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND

Michelle Cooper has completed this personal reflection on **12/11/2021**

Paper: Autumn 2021 CPD Questions

Personal Reflection:

Description of the learning: Questions based on two papers; 1. Early experience with arterial thromboembolic complications in patients with COVID-19 (Indes et al.) and 2. Pulmonary embolism and deep vein thrombosis in COVID-19.

Evaluation and analysis:

- Paper 1. Patients with COVID-19 are at risk of acute arterial thromboembolic events, even in patients with a lack of conventional risk factor. This was a limited study providing interesting and useful early data into the risks of arterial thromboembolism associated with COVID-19. It was a small scan study over a short time period, and extending the study to include different centres and more patients over a longer time period will provide more robust findings. It was hypothesised that the hyperinflammatory state caused by COVID-19 may result in hypercoagulability favouring the formation of arterial thromboemboli.

- Paper 2. DVT and PE occur in 16.5% and 14.8% of patients with COVID-19 respectively. It is interesting that more than half of patients with PE lacked DVT, which supports the hypothesis that in situ thrombosis partly contributes to prothrombotic events in COVID-19. The pre-existing D-dimer cut-offs and guidelines seem to be applicable to patients with COVID-19.