

SAVE THE DATE

The Division of Blood Disorders (DBD) is proud to offer its “Webinar Series on Bleeding and Clotting Disorders.” This new webinar series provides evidence-based information on new research, interventions, and emerging issues of interest in blood disorders, as well as innovative approaches in collaborations and partnerships.

To participate, please log on to view the content and dial in to hear the audio.

Visit: <https://www.livemeeting.com/cc/cdc/join?id=CB2Q97&role=attend>. Enter the meeting ID: **CB2Q97** and click “**Join.**” Dial the toll-free number: **1 (866) 692-4541** and enter the participant code: **13565573**

TOPIC

Vitamin K and Vitamin K Deficiency Bleeding in Infants

GUEST PRESENTER



Lauren Marcewicz, MD

Lauren Marcewicz, MD, is a pediatrician and Epidemic Intelligence Service Officer with the Division of Blood Disorders at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Dr. Marcewicz led a 2013 investigation of vitamin K deficiency bleeding (VKDB) in Tennessee, and subsequently contributed to the development of CDC educational materials and web content. She has also led efforts to educate clinicians and publicize this issue nationally.

WHEN

THURSDAY, JULY 10, 2014
2:00–3:00pm EDT

WEBINAR DESCRIPTION

Vitamin K deficiency bleeding (VKDB), an acquired impairment in the blood’s clotting ability, is a potentially devastating condition that can affect infants. Bleeding can range from mild to severe and intracranial bleeding accounts for 30% to 60% of cases diagnosed in infants older than 2 weeks of age. VKDB has been virtually eliminated in most developed countries because of the implementation of vitamin K injections at birth as a prevention measure and standard of care. Debates over the need for vitamin K injections for VKDB prevention and the safety of the intramuscular route have appeared in the medical literature, with medical and scientific consensus ultimately upholding the standard of care. Recently, however, concerns about the safety and need for prophylaxis have started to make their way into popular dialogue, with concerning results: several cases of VKDB were diagnosed at a single hospital in Tennessee last year, and additional cases have been reported in other parts of the country. Clinicians should be prepared to discuss vitamin K prophylaxis with parents.

In this webinar, Dr. Marcewicz will review how vitamin K works in infants, discuss the different classifications of VKDB, and explain the origins of objections that some parents have raised about administration of this important public health preventive measure.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

At the end of this webinar, attendees will be able to:

- ▶ Describe basic vitamin K physiology in infants.
- ▶ Describe the different types of VKDB and associated severity.
- ▶ Explain at least two concerns about vitamin K prophylaxis that parents may have.
- ▶ List at least two resources for clinicians and families on vitamin K prophylaxis.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND

This webinar is free and open to all healthcare providers who are interested in learning about Vitamin K deficiency bleeding.

For more information about the webinar, please contact Cynthia Sayers at cay1@cdc.gov or **404-498-0020**.

National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities
Division of Blood Disorders

