

## - Complications of Arthroscopy:

- infection:
  - note that there are several different methods of sterilizing arthroscopic instruments, and that some are better than others;
  - ref: [Septic arthritis following arthroscopic meniscus repair: a cluster of three cases.](#)
  
- vascular and nerve injury
  - neural disruption/neuropraxia - is usually secondary to prolonged tourniquet times;
- [neurologic complications](#)
- synovitis
- persistent drainage
- effusions are common;
- hemarthrosis
- deep venous thrombosis
  - in the report by Thomas Wirth et al. in order to evaluate the risk of VTE in knee arthroscopy patients in order to determine efficacy and safety of a low-molecular weight heparin (LMWH) (reviparin sodium) in preventing VTE.
    - there were 262 patients undergoing elective knee arthroscopy prospectively randomized to receive either no treatment or reviparin once daily subcutaneously for 7 to 10 days.
    - 239 patients were evaluable (122 no treatment, 117 receiving LMWH). 6 DVT were detected - 5 in the control group (5/117 - 4.1%) and only one in the active treatment group (1/116 - 0.85%).
    - there was no major bleeding, four patients with minor bleedings.
    - 1 patient had a transitory fall in platelet count below 100 giga-particles/L without any clinical symptoms.
    - patients undergoing knee arthroscopy have a moderate risk of VTE and effective prophylaxis can be achieved with LMWH (reviparin).
    - ref: Prevention of venous thromboembolism after knee arthroscopy with low-molecular weight heparin (Reviparin). Results of a randomized controlled trial  
Thomas Wirth, M.D. Arthroscopy April 2001 Volume 17 Number 4