



## Effective Health Care IVC Filter Placement by Race/Ethnicity Nomination Summary Document

### Results of Topic Selection Process & Next Steps

- IVC filter placement by race/ethnicity is not feasible for a full systematic review due to the limited data available for a review at this time.

### Topic Description

**Nominator:** Individual

**Nomination Summary:** The nominator is interested in healthcare disparities that may impact the provision of inferior vena cava (IVC) filters to people who are racial or ethnic minorities. The nominator suggests that African American patients may not be receiving IVC filters at the same rate as other patients, despite an increased risk for deep vein thrombosis among African Americans.

**Staff-Generated PICO**

**Population(s):** People from minority racial or ethnic groups with venous thromboembolism (VTE) or deep vein thrombosis

**Intervention(s):** Inferior vena cava (IVC) filters

**Comparator(s):** Anticoagulant drugs; other mechanical methods (e.g., compression)

**Outcome(s):** Pulmonary embolism

**Key Questions from Nominator:** 1. In patients undergoing IVC filter placement, what is the indication comparison amongst different ethnicities?

### Considerations

- The topic meets EHC Program appropriateness and importance criteria. (For more information, see <http://effectivehealthcare.ahrq.gov/index.cfm/submit-a-suggestion-for-research/how-are-research-topics-chosen/>.)
- No clinical practice guideline recommendations for IVC filter placement or overall treatment of venous thromboembolism specific to race or ethnicity were identified. No systematic reviews or research studies were identified that specifically compare outcomes or provision of IVC filters by race or ethnicity. Therefore, this topic is not feasible for a full systematic review due to the limited data available for a review at this time.

- One in-process and one completed AHRQ product examines the comparative effectiveness of IVC filters to prevent pulmonary embolism in several patient subpopulations:
  - Comparative Effectiveness of Pharmacological and Mechanical Prophylaxis of Venous Thromboembolism Among Special Populations (Research Protocol). Rockville, MD: Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality 2012. To view a description and status of the research review, please go to: <http://www.effectivehealthcare.ahrq.gov/index.cfm/search-for-guides-reviews-and-reports/>
    - To sign up for notification when this and other EHC Program topics are posted, please go to: <http://effectivehealthcare.ahrq.gov/index.cfm/join-the-email-list1/>
  - Sobieraj D, Coleman C, Tongbram V, et al. Venous Thromboembolism Prophylaxis in Orthopedic Surgery. Comparative Effectiveness Review No. 49. (Prepared by the University of Connecticut/Hartford Hospital Evidence-based Practice Center under Contract No. 290-2007-10067-I.) AHRQ Publication No. 12-EHC020-EF. Rockville, MD: Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality. March 2012. [www.effectivehealthcare.ahrq.gov/reports/final.cfm](http://www.effectivehealthcare.ahrq.gov/reports/final.cfm).