LOVENOX for “at Risk” Pregnancies

Using Lovenox while pregnant can have risks. No valid controlled studies using Lovenox have been done on pregnant women. All information is based on results from women who took Lovenox during their pregnancies.

- All pregnant women are at risk for bleeding when on Lovenox or any other blood thinner. Lovenox should **not** be given during pregnancy if there is any type of bleeding. Some bleeding risks are:
  - Placenta previa.
  - Partial placenta previa.
  - Placental abruption.
  - Bleeding with a threatened abortion or bleeding of unknown cause.
- Lovenox should not be given in pregnant women with HELLP syndrome. There is a lower platelet count in this syndrome or in pregnant women with a platelet count.
- Epidural, spinal anesthesia and even spinal puncture increases the risk of bleeding and hematoma in the spinal canal. This may cause partial or total paralysis. The risk is even greater if indwelling epidural or spinal catheters are used.
- Multiple injection use of Lovenox vials contain benzyl alcohol as a preservative. This can cross into the placenta. This may result in fatal “Gasping Syndrome” in the newborn baby.
- Lovenox itself does not appear to cross the placental barrier. It has not been shown to cause abnormalities in the fetus in human and animal studies.
- Pregnant women with a mechanical heart valve prosthesis are at greater risk for blood clots. These women have not been studied using Lovenox.
- There is no information available if Lovenox is excreted in breast milk. Caution should be used when breastfeeding if Lovenox is to be given.

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