

Letters to the Editor

SUSPICION OF CIGARETTE SMOKING AS A RISK FACTOR FOR VENOUS THROMBOSIS

To the Editor:

I am writing in response to the recent *Letter to the Editor*, "Cigarette Smoking as a Risk Factor For Deep Venous Thrombosis," (Jay SJ, Hassoun PM, Simon AR: *Hospital Physician* 1999;35[2]:7-8). In the early 1950s, those of us who were on the Vascular Surgical Service at the (then) 3000-bed Veteran's Administration Hospital in Hines, IL, strongly suspected cigarette smoking

to be a prominent risk factor in venous thrombosis. We always advised our patients to stop smoking. Our suspicions were not published, but other physicians were also noting a probable connection between cigarette smoking and venous thrombosis.

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