Low-molecular-weight heparins

MSF strongly supports the inclusion of low-molecular-weight heparins (LMWH) as a therapeutic class of medicines in the WHO Model List of Essential Medicines, for prophylaxis of venous thromboembolism in patients undergoing high risk surgical procedures. Low-molecular-weight heparins are easy to use (single daily dose), effective, worldwide available and affordable medicines. They have a better safety profile than low-dose unfractionated heparin (LDUH).

MSF has been using nadroparin in its programs since 2006.

MSF urges the 20th Expert Committee on the Selection and Use of Essential Medicines to include low-molecular-weight heparins as a therapeutic class of medicines in the WHO Model List of Essential Medicines.

Myriam Henkens, MD, MPH
International Medical Coordinator
Médecins Sans Frontières