**Antiphospho … what?**

Antiphospholipid syndrome (APS) is an under-diagnosed autoimmune disease that carries an increased risk of thrombotic and obstetric complications. APS causes approximately 15% of strokes, heart attacks and DVTs in the under 50s. In pregnancy, APS is the most important potentially treatable cause of recurrent miscarriage. Currently, on average, it takes three years for someone to be diagnosed with APS.

There is now a Royal College of GPs online course for the diagnosis and treatment of APS. The antiphospholipid syndrome eLearning module takes 30 minutes to complete and is free to both members and non-members of the RCGP. On successful completion, you will be awarded 0.5 Continuing Professional Developments and will be issued with a certificate.

Click here to access the course: [**http://elearning.rcgp.org.uk/aps**](http://elearning.rcgp.org.uk/aps)

Whilst it is usually diagnosed in secondary care, the Royal College states that GPs need to be aware of APS in order to make appropriate referrals in those who meet the clinical diagnostic criteria.

The charity, APS Support UK, has a list of APS consultants throughout the UK: [www.aps-support.org.uk](http://www.aps-support.org.uk) which GPs may find useful.