

**Table 2. Recommendations for duration of anticoagulation**

| <b>Condition</b>                               | <b>Duration</b>       |
|------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1st event, transient risk factor               | 3–6 months            |
| 1st event, idiopathic VTE*                     | At least 6 months     |
| 1st event, with thrombophilia, cancer† or APAS | 12 months to lifetime |
| Recurrent event                                | 12 months to lifetime |

*APAS= antiphospholipid antibody syndrome; VTE= venous thromboembolism.*

*\*Idiopathic VTE is VTE that occurs without a known risk factor. It is also called primary VTE.*

*†For patients with cancer and VTE, anticoagulation with a treatment dose of low-molecular-weight heparin (LMWH) is recommended for 3–6 months. At that point, the decision should be made whether to continue with LMWH or switch to warfarin (international normalized ratio, 2–3).*