

# Understanding thrombosis in venous thromboembolism

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# Disclosures

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## João Morais

**On the last year JM received honoraria for consultant activities and invited speaker for pharmaceutical and device's companies**

**Astra Zeneca**

**Bayer Healthcare**

**BMS / Pfizer**

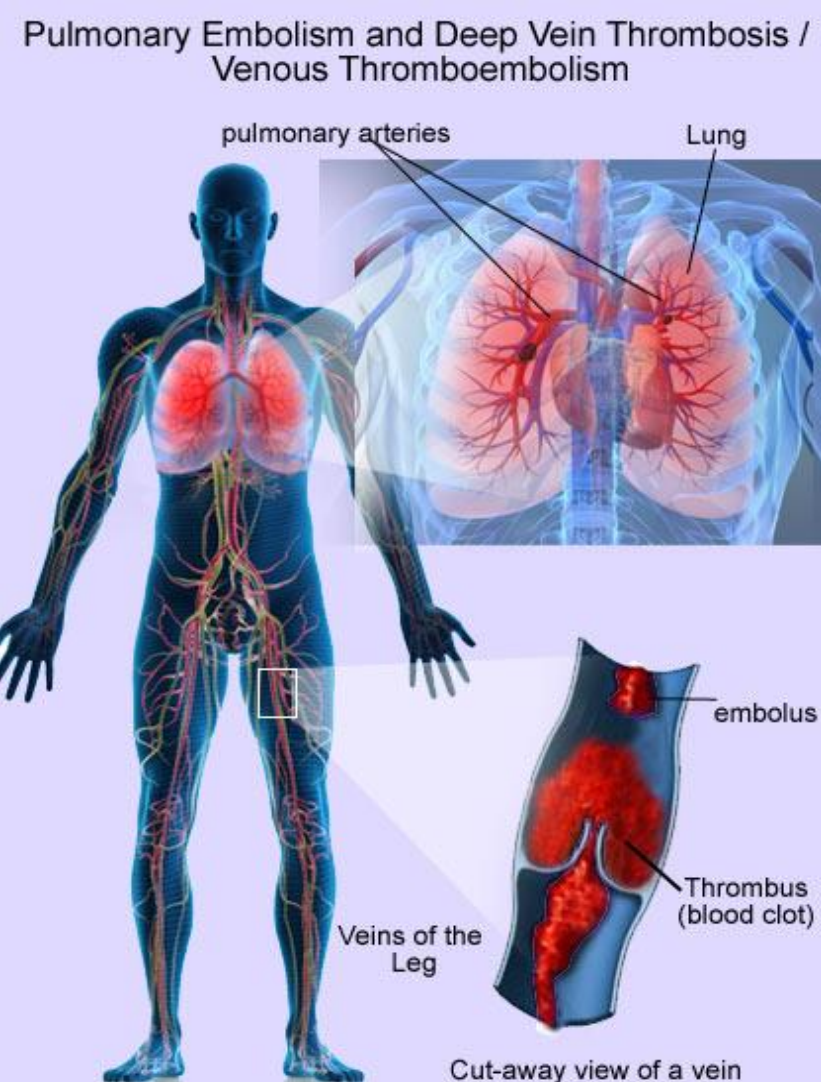
**Boehringer Ingelheim**

**Boston Scientific**

**Daiichi Sankyo**

**Merck Sharp and Dhome**

# Background



## Venous thrombosis

Yearly incidence  
1/1000 person-years

1/3 of DVT complicate with a clot  
in the lungs

Recurrence at 5 years - 28%

Case-fatality rate  
(recurrence) 3% - 6%

Habson PO et al. Arch Intern Med 2000;160:769  
Carrier M et al. Ann Intern Med 2010;152:578

# DVT by the numbers

96% arise in the **lower extremities**

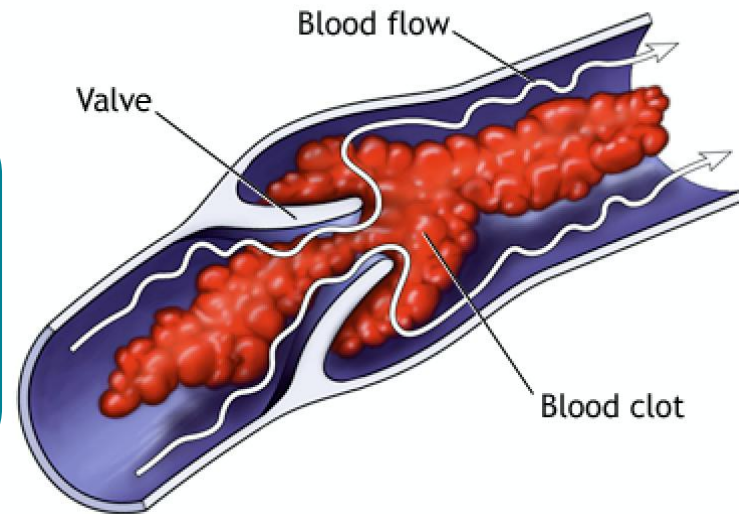
4% arise in the **upper extremities**.

Chest 2008 Jan;133(1):143-8

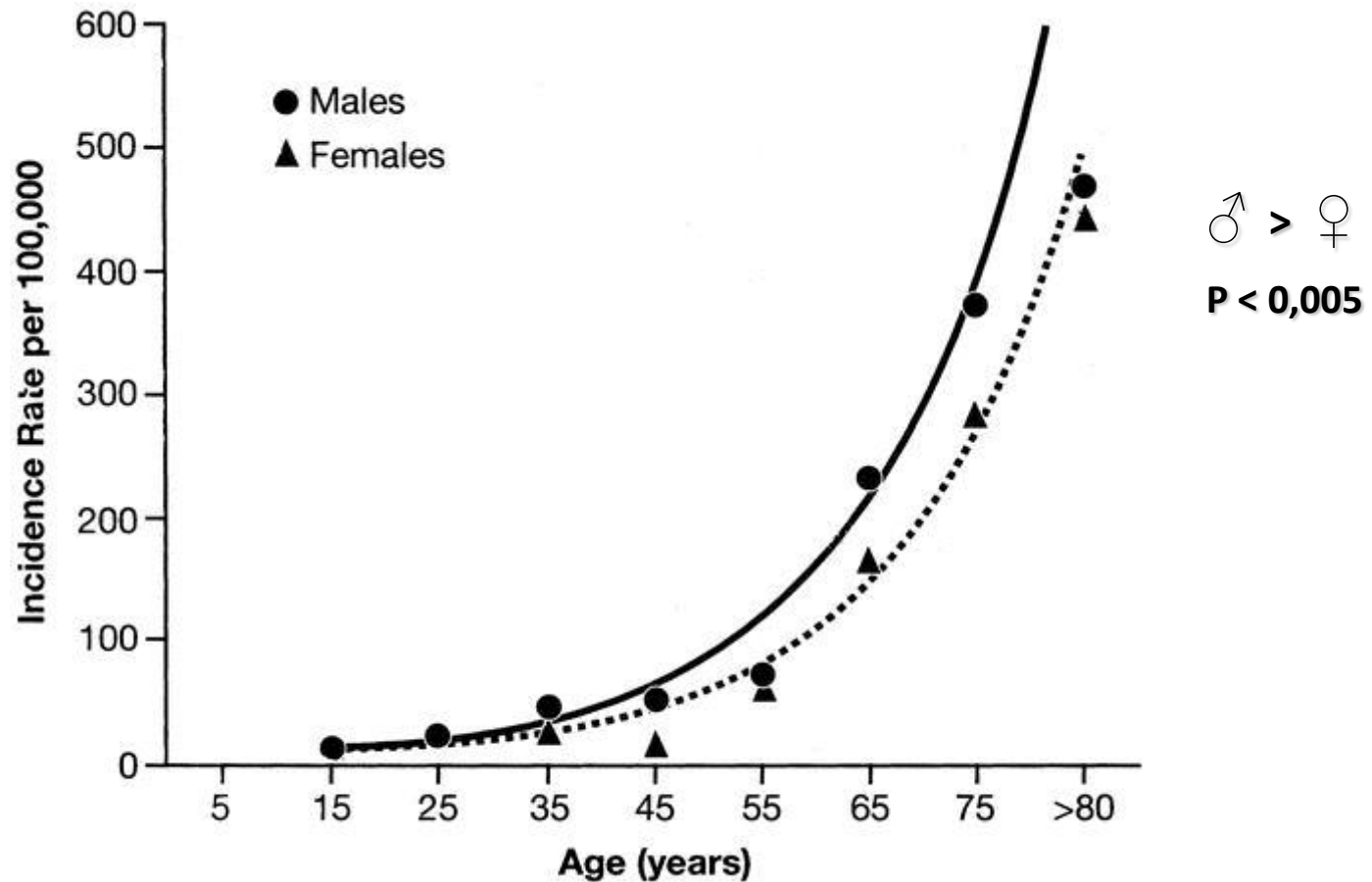
Of **symptomatic** lower-extremity DVTs, 88% involve the **proximal veins**; the rest only involve the **calf veins**.

Almost all lower-extremity DVTs arise from the calf veins and extend proximally.

Arch Intern Med 1993;153(24):2777-80



## Incidence of DVT by age



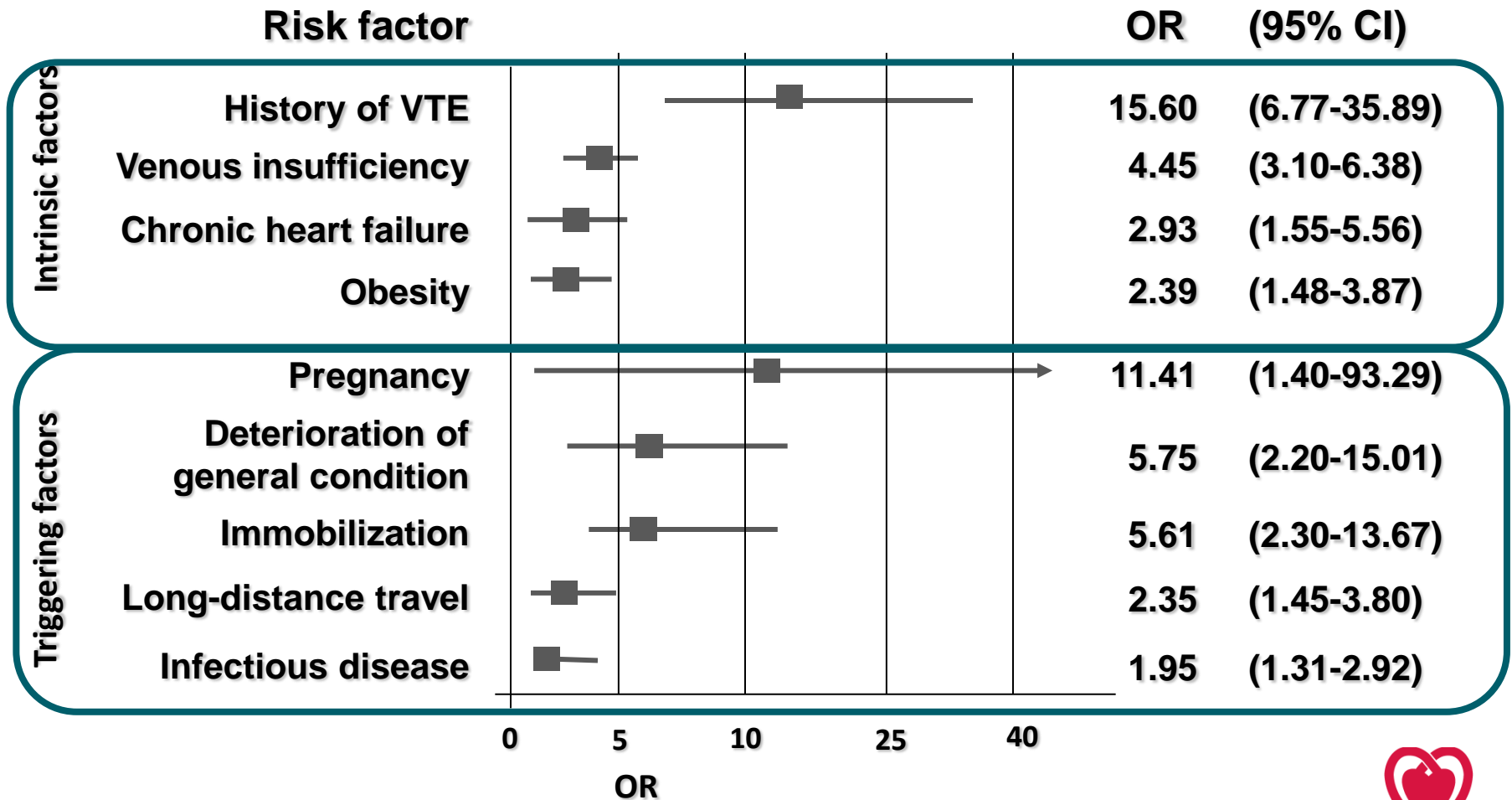
USA data (Worcester Massachusetts)

380.000 inhabitants

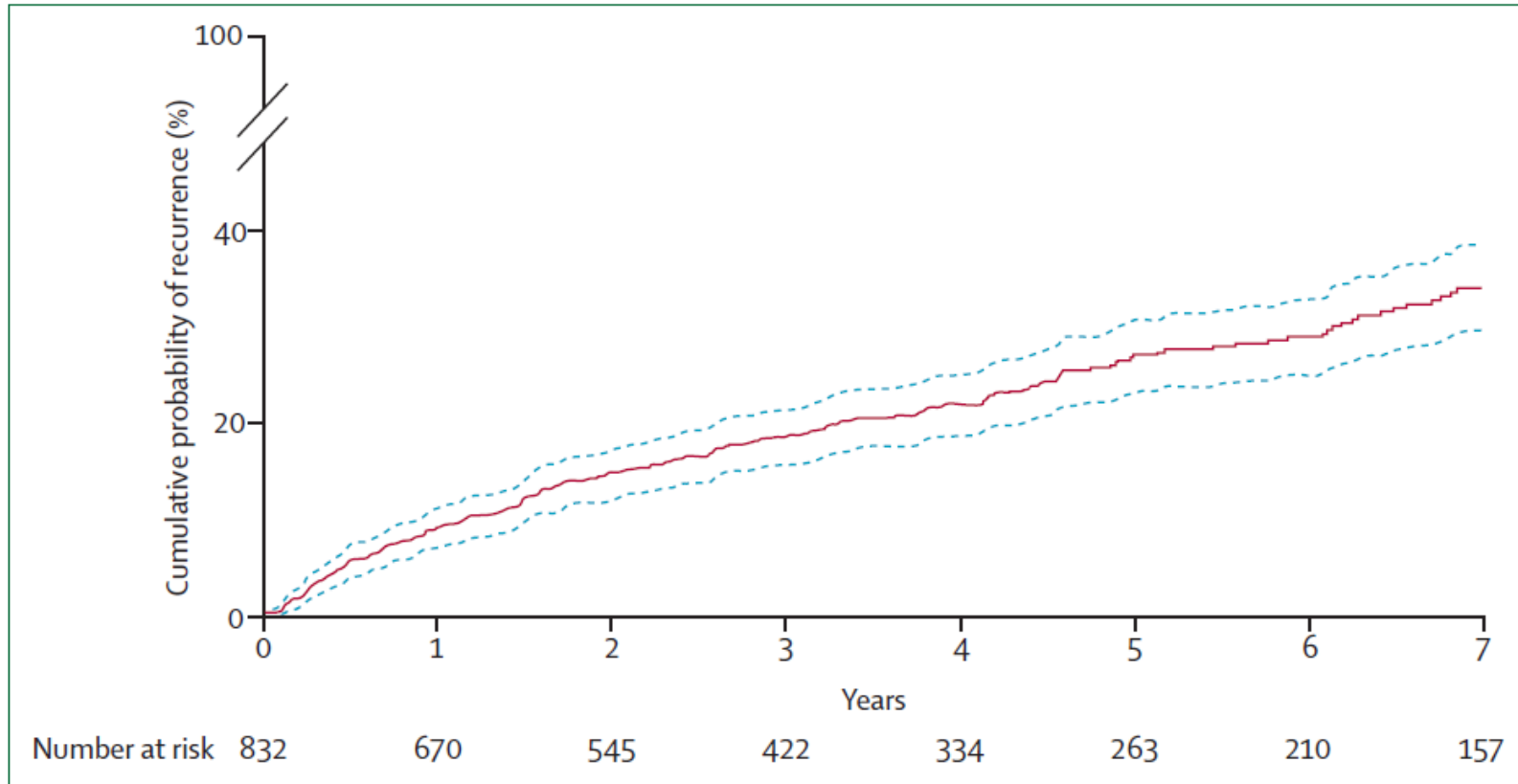
Anderson FA et al. Arch Intern Med 1991; 151: 933

# Risk factors

medical outpatients presenting with DVT



# Recurrence after withdrawal of AC

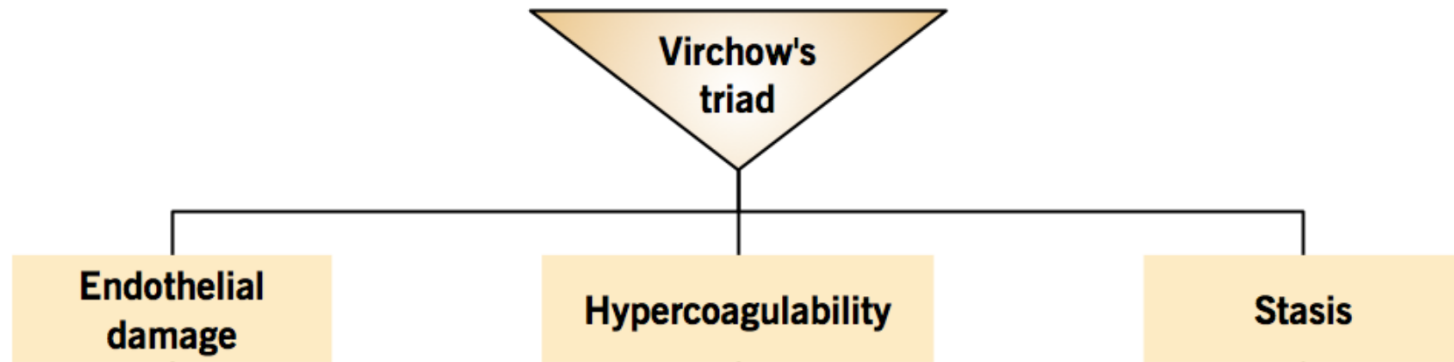


**Figure 1: Kaplan-Meier estimates of cumulative rate of recurrence in 832 patients with a first unprovoked venous thrombosis after withdrawal of anticoagulant treatment**

Dotted lines show 95% CIs.

Eichinger S, et al. Circulation 2010;121:1630

# Pathophysiology

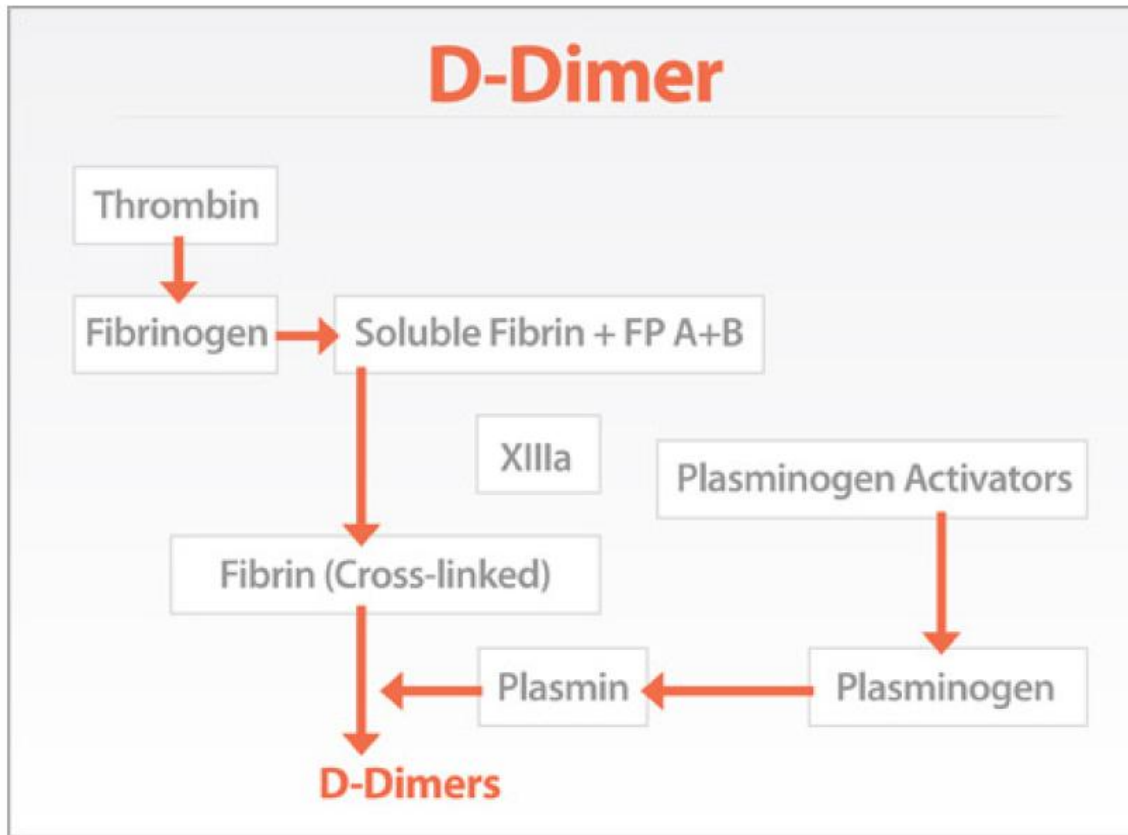


# Arterial versus venous thrombosis

	<b>Arterial thrombosis</b>	<b>Venous thrombosis (VTE)</b>
Mechanism	Typically from rupture of atherosclerotic plaques.	Typically from a combination of factors from Virchow's triad.
Location	Left heart chambers, arteries	Venous sinusoids of muscles and valves in veins
Diseases	<b>Acute coronary syndrome</b> <b>Ischemic stroke</b> <b>Limb claudication/ischemia</b>	<b>Deep venous thrombosis</b> <b>Pulmonary embolism</b>
Composition	Mainly platelets	Mainly fibrin
Treatment	Mainly antiplatelet agents (ASA, clopidogrel)	Mainly anticoagulants (heparins, warfarin)

*Thromb Haemost 2011 Apr;105(4):586-96.*

# Diagnosis (indirect thrombus evidence)

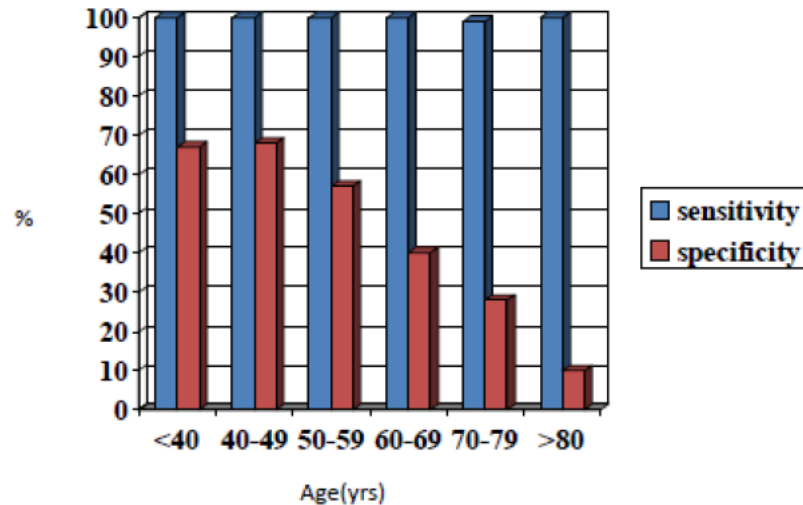


@Fibrin D-dimer is a degradation product of cross-linked fibrin, and its concentration increases in patients with VTE.

D-dimer is highly sensitive (more than 95%) in excluding DVT, usually below a **threshold of 500 µg/L**

# Age-adjusted D-dimers levels

## Effects of age on D-dimer performance



Righini et al, Presse Med. 2001

age	Cut-off
$\leq 50$ yrs	500 $\mu\text{g/L}$
$> 50$ yrs	Age $\times 10$ $\mu\text{g/L}$

ESC guidelines 2014

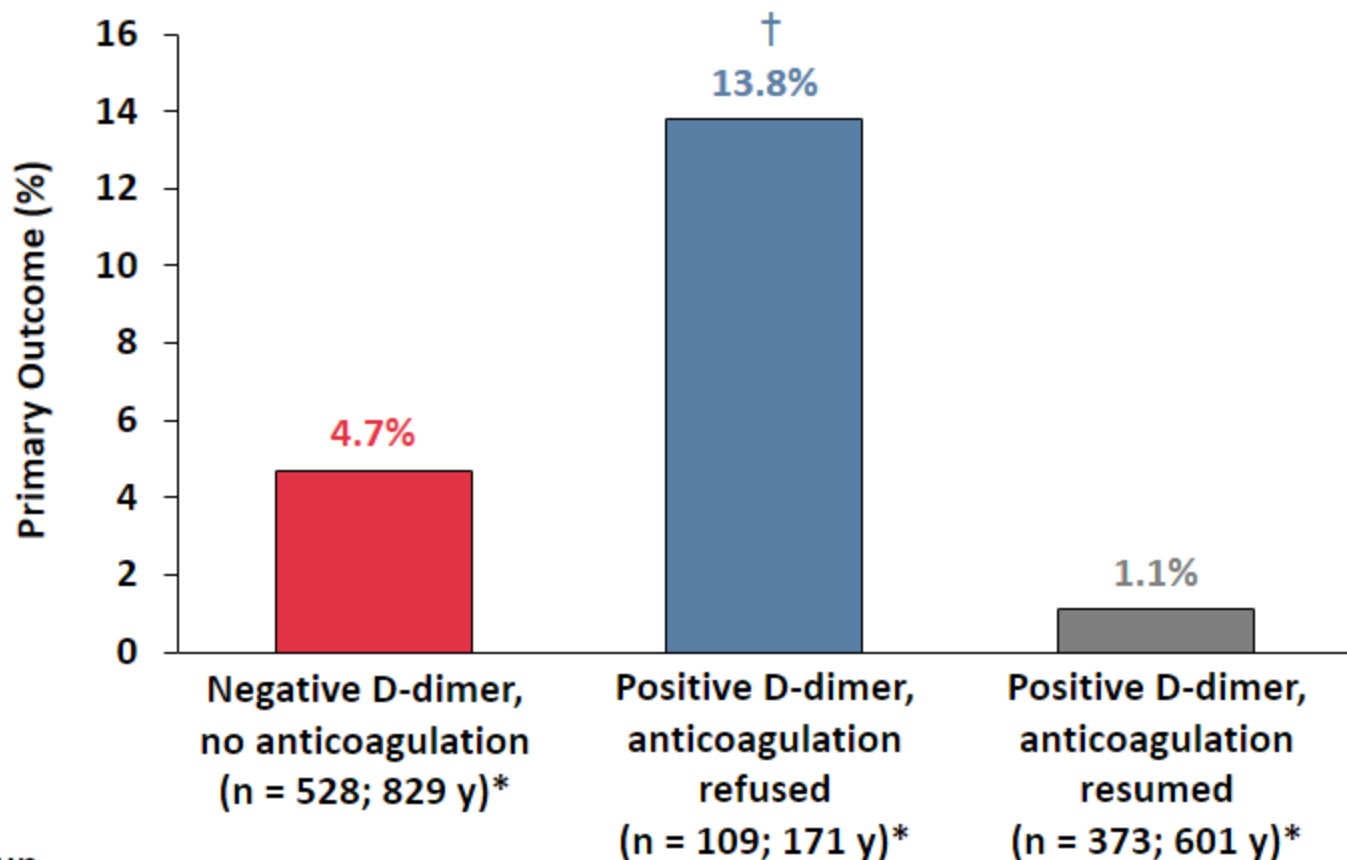
Table 3. Study Results According to D-Dimer Assays

D-Dimer Assay	Low/Intermediate or Unlikely Clinical Probability, No. of Patients	D-Dimer $< 500$ $\mu\text{g/L}$	3-mo Thromboembolism Risk		D-Dimer $\geq 500$ $\mu\text{g/L}$ and $<$ Age-Adjusted Cutoff	3-mo Thromboembolism Risk	
			No. of Events/ Total Patients	% (95% CI)		No. of Events/ Total Patients	% (95% CI)
VIDAS D-Dimer Exclusion	1345	423	0/417	0.0 (0.0-0.9)	130	0/127	0.0 (0.0-2.9)
Innovance D-Dimer	838	202	1/202	0.5 (0.1-2.8)	103	1/103	1.0 (0.2-5.3)
STA-Liatest D-Dimer	389	132	0/132	0.0 (0.0-2.8)	49	0/47	0.0 (0.0-7.6)
D-Dimer HS 500	185	32	0/31	0.0 (0.0-11.0)	23	0/23	0.0 (0.0-14.3)
Second-generation Tina-quant	128	26	0/26	0.0 (0.0-12.9)	32	0/31	0.0 (0.0-11.0)
Cobas h 232	13	2	0/2	0.0 (0.0-65.8)	0		
Total	2898	817	1/8	0.1 (0.0-0.7)	337	1/331	0.3 (0.1-1.7)

Righini et al., JAMA 2014

# DULCIS: D-dimer Use in Determining Anticoagulant Treatment Duration for VTE

Composite of Confirmed Recurrent VTE and Death Caused by VTE



\*Total follow-up

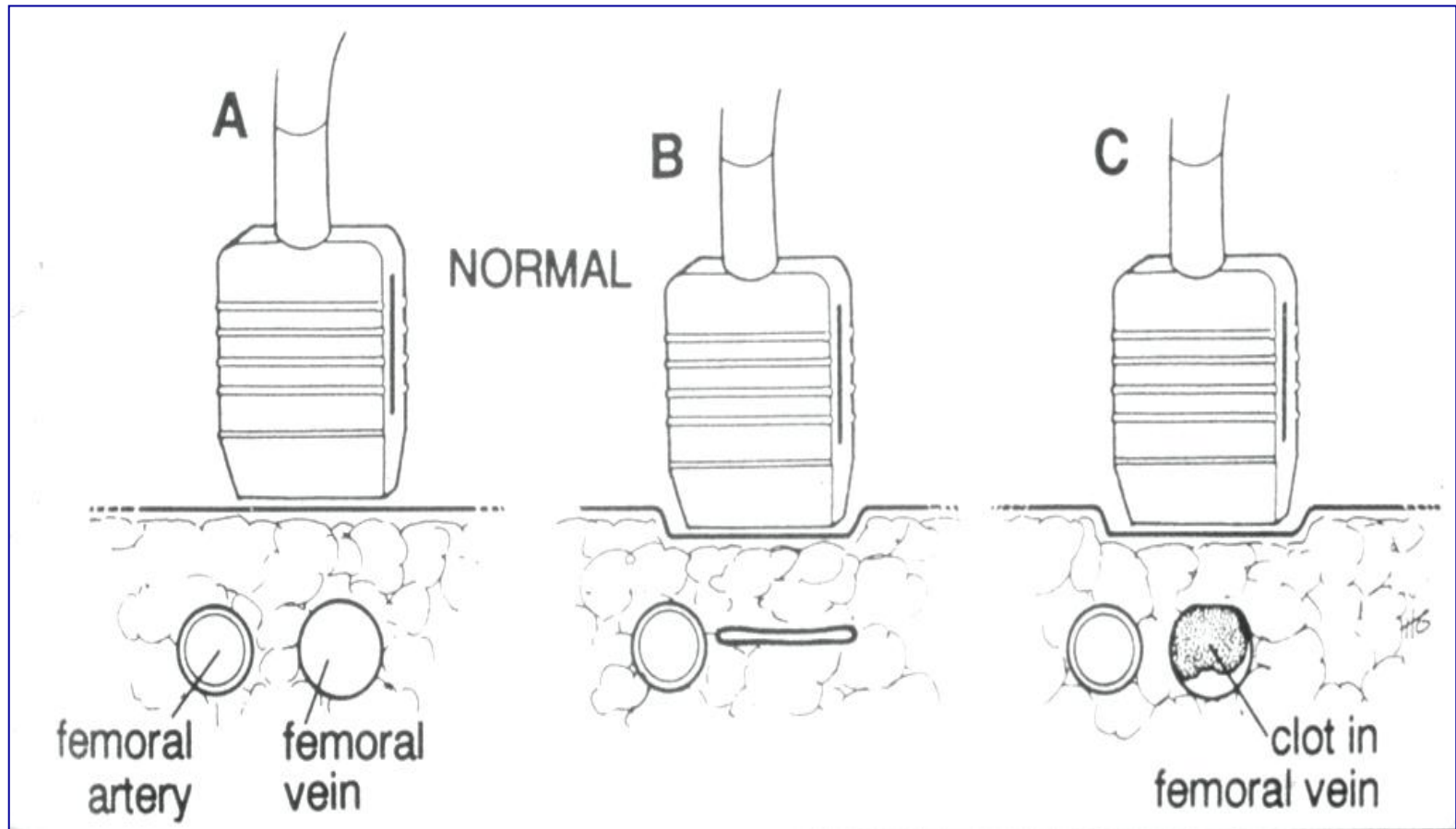
† $P=.0008$  vs patients with negative D-dimer

DULCIS = D-dimer and ULtrasonography in Combination Italian Study

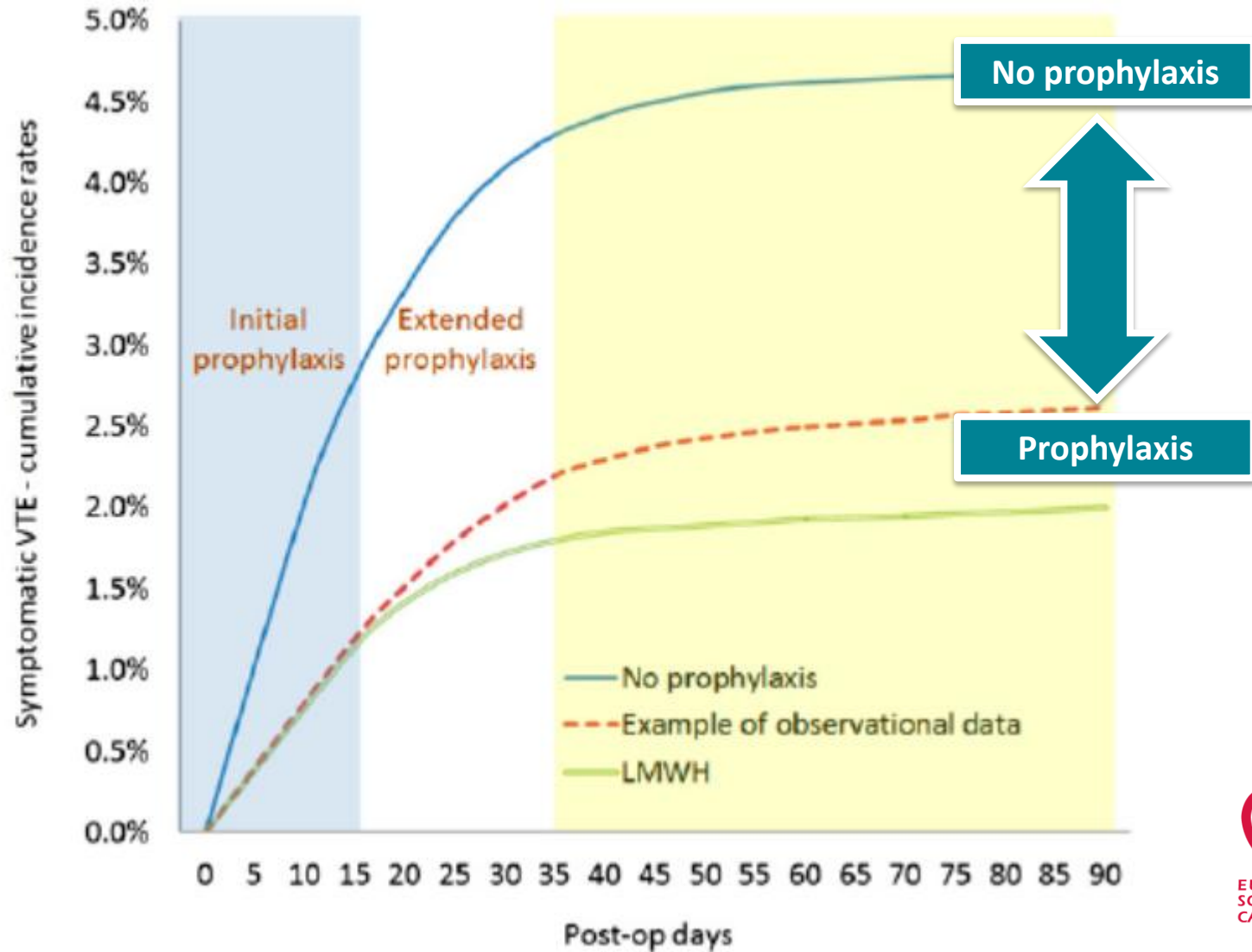
Palareti G, et al. *Blood*. 2014;124:196-203.

## Diagnosis (direct thrombus evidence)

# Compression Doppler Ultrasound



# Major orthopaedic surgery



# Major orthopaedic surgery

## The success of thromboprophylaxis

**Meta-analysis of randomized clinical trials and observational studies that reported rates of postoperative symptomatic VTE in patients who received recommended VTE prophylaxis after undergoing TPHA or TPKA.**

**44 844 cases provided by 47 studies**

**The pooled rates of symptomatic postoperative VTE before hospital discharge**

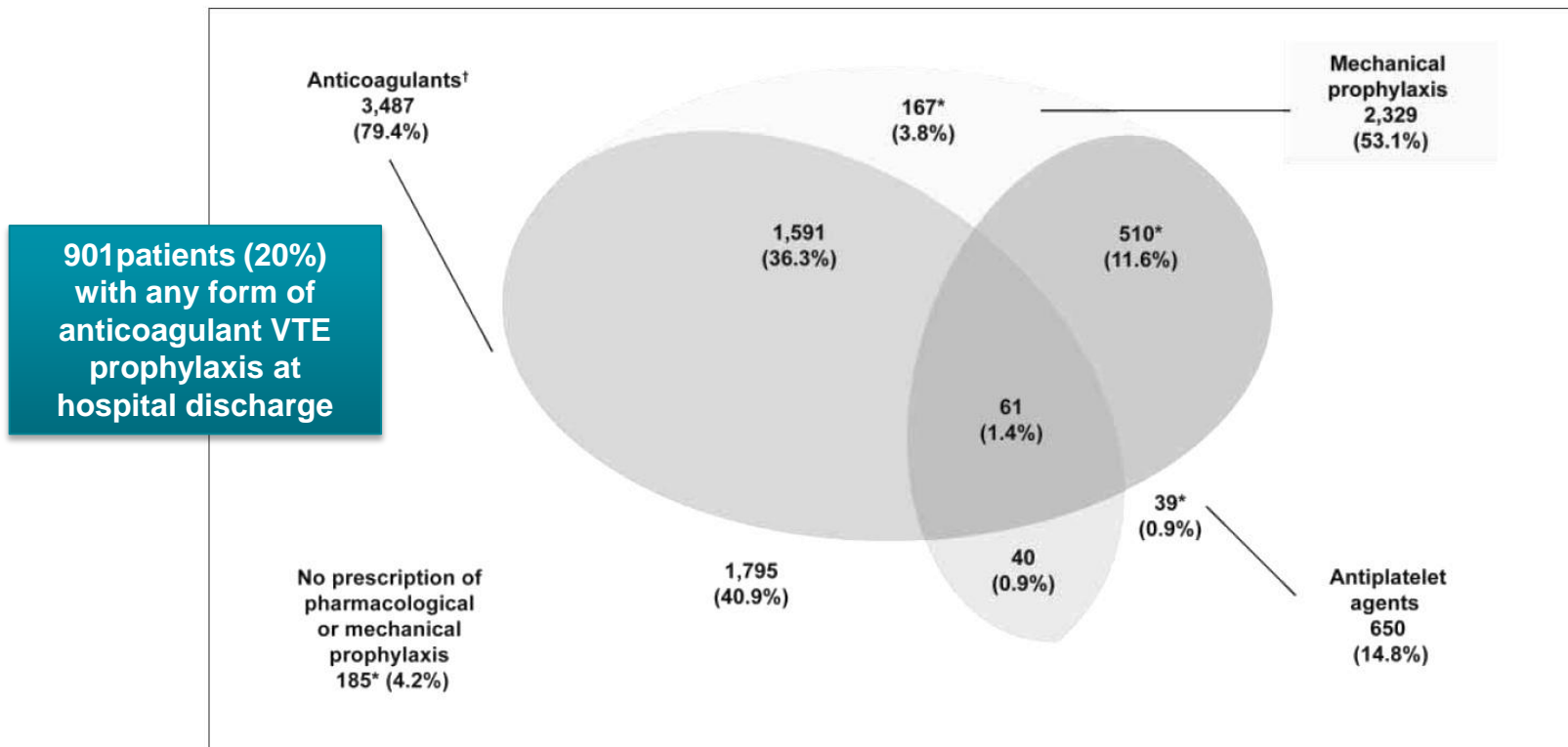
**1.09% (95% CI, 0.85% - 1.33%) for patients undergoing TPKA  
0.53% (95% CI, 0.35% - 0.70%) for those undergoing TPHA  
0.63% (95% CI, 0.47% - 0.78%) for knee arthroplasty  
0.26% (95% CI, 0.14% - 0.37%) for hip arthroplasty**

# Major orthopaedic surgery

## ETHOS observational study

17 European countries

4,388 eligible and assessable patients for the analysis of VTE prophylaxis prescribed  
1,059 KA (24.1%) 2,217 THA (50.5%) 1,112 HFS (25.3%)



# DVT in cancer patients

**Symptomatic venous thromboembolism (VTE) occurs 4-7 times more frequently in cancer patients as compared to non-cancer patients**

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## Patient-related factors

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- Older age
- Gender (Female)
- Ethnic origin (higher in African Americans; lower in Asian-Pacific Islanders)
- Comorbidities (obesity, renal disease, pulmonary disease, neutropenia, infection)
- Prior history of venous thromboembolism
- Lower performance status
- Immobilisation
- Heritable prothrombotic mutations (Factor V Leiden, prothrombin gene mutation)

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## Cancer-related factors

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- Primary tumour site (pancreatic, ovarian, kidney, lung, gastric, brain, and haematologic)
- Histologic subtype (adenocarcinoma > squamous cell carcinoma)
- Locally advanced tumours/ distant metastases
- Initial period after diagnosis

# DVT in cancer patients

**Symptomatic venous thromboembolism (VTE) occurs 4-7 times more frequently in cancer patients as compared to non-cancer patients**

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## Treatment-related factors

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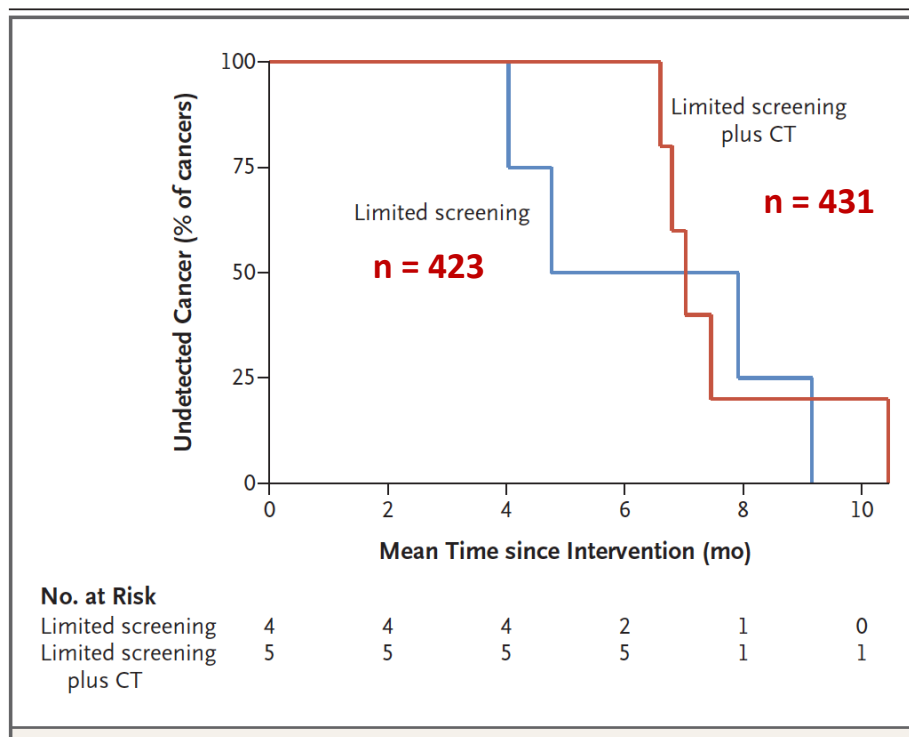
- Recent major surgery
  - Hospitalisation
  - Central venous catheters
  - Chemotherapy
  - Antiangiogenic agents (bevacizumab, sunitinib, sorafenib)
  - Immunomodulatory drugs (thalidomide, lenalidomide)
  - Hormonal therapy (tamoxifen)
  - Erythropoietin
  - Transfusions (platelets, red blood cells)
-

# Screening for occult cancer

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

DOI: 10.1056/NEJMoa1506623

## Screening for Occult Cancer in Unprovoked Venous Thromboembolism



ier, M.D., Sudeep Shivakumar, M.D.,

### CONCLUSIONS

The prevalence of occult cancer was low among patients with a first unprovoked venous thromboembolism. Routine screening with CT of the abdomen and pelvis did not provide a clinically significant benefit.

# Thrombophilia

Cause of death	Number of patients (%) (Total number n=78)
VTE, thereof:	Σ 4 (5 %)
Definite PE	3 (3.8 %)
Possible PE	1 (1.3 %)
Bleedings	4 (5 %)
<b>Other causes</b>	
Cardiovascular causes/heart failure	20 (26 %)
Malignancies	27 (35 %)
Trauma / accident /suicide	7 (9 %)
Others (e.g. pulmonary, renal causes, infection, long-term consequences of diabetes mellitus)	16 (21 %)

VTE – venous thromboembolism; PE – pulmonary embolism.

**1905 with VTE**  
**944 with thrombophilia**  
**78 died (4.1%)**

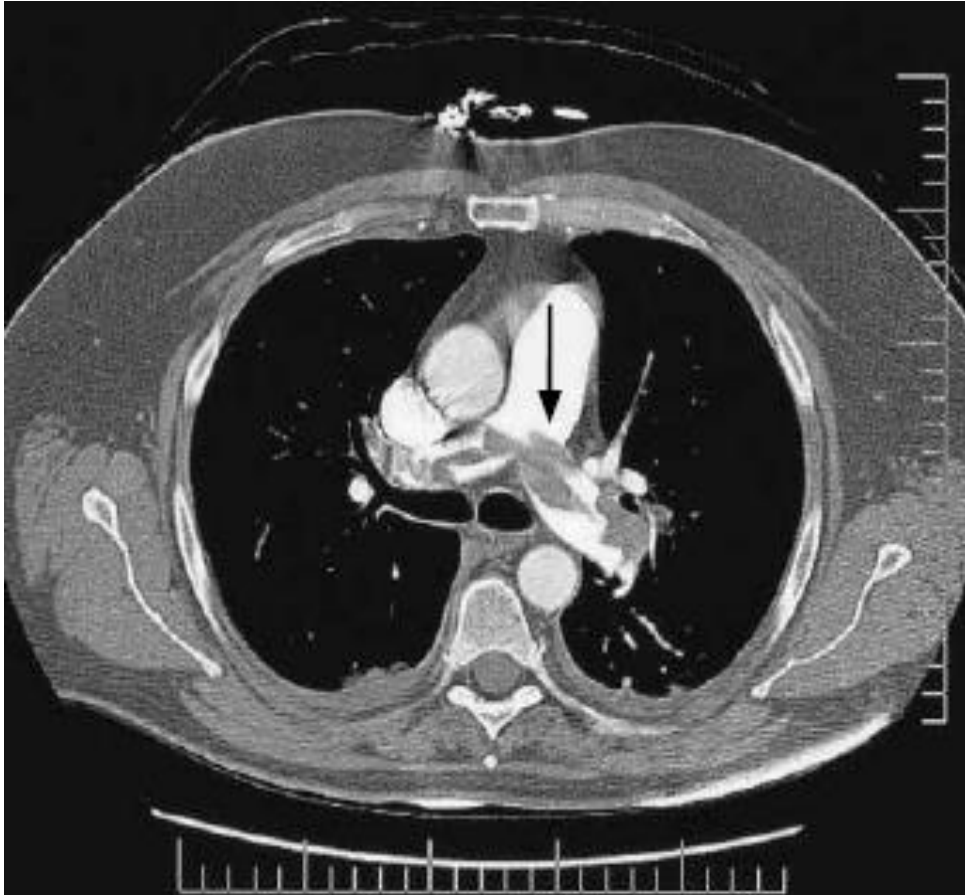
# Thrombophilia

Table 4: Hazard ratios and 95 % confidence intervals for death (corrected for sex and age) regarding thrombophilia risk factors.

Parameter	HR	95 % CI
ATIII-, PC-, PS-deficiency (binary)	2.03	0.71 – 4.56
Factor V Leiden (binary)	0.81	0.46 – 1.35
Hyperhomocysteinaemia (linear)	1.02	0.98 – 1.05
Hyperhomocysteinaemia (binary)	1.98	1.08 – 3.48
Elevated FVIII (linear)	1.00	1.00 – 1.01
Elevated FVIII (binary)	1.27	0.78 – 2.05

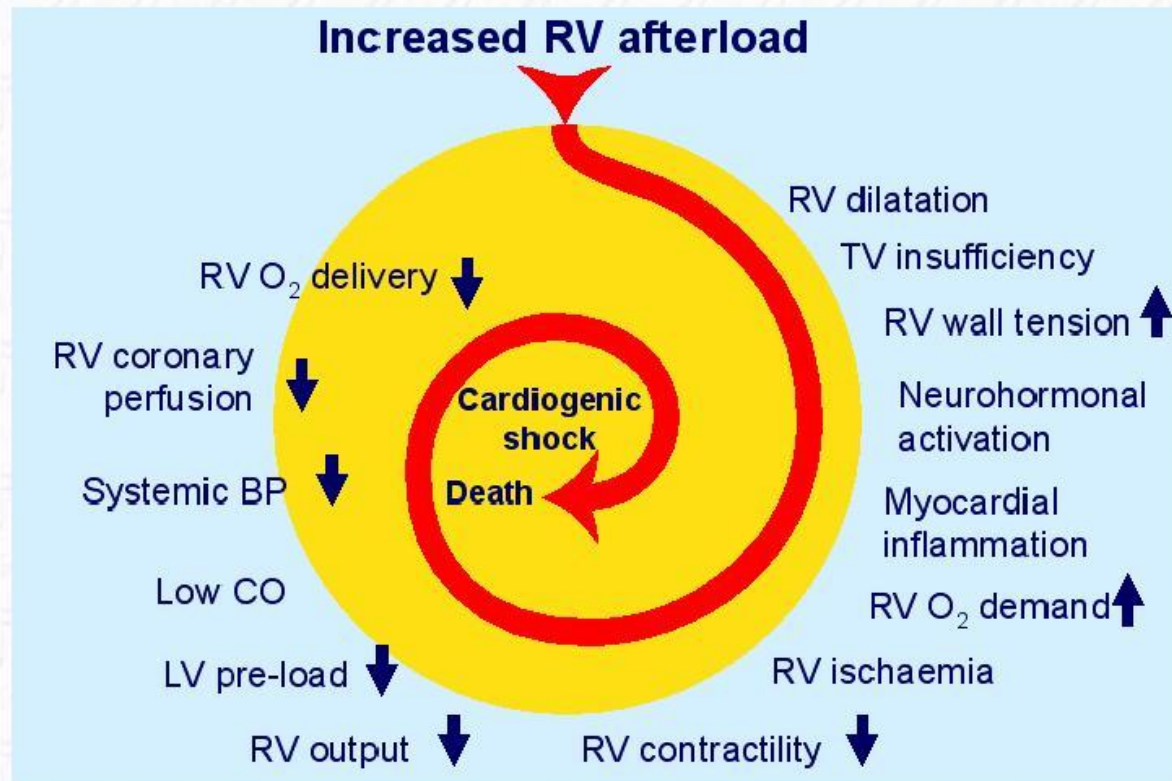
ATIII – antithrombin III; PC – protein C; PS – protein S; FVIII – factor VIII; HR – hazard ratio; CI – confidence interval.

# DVT and pulmonary embolism



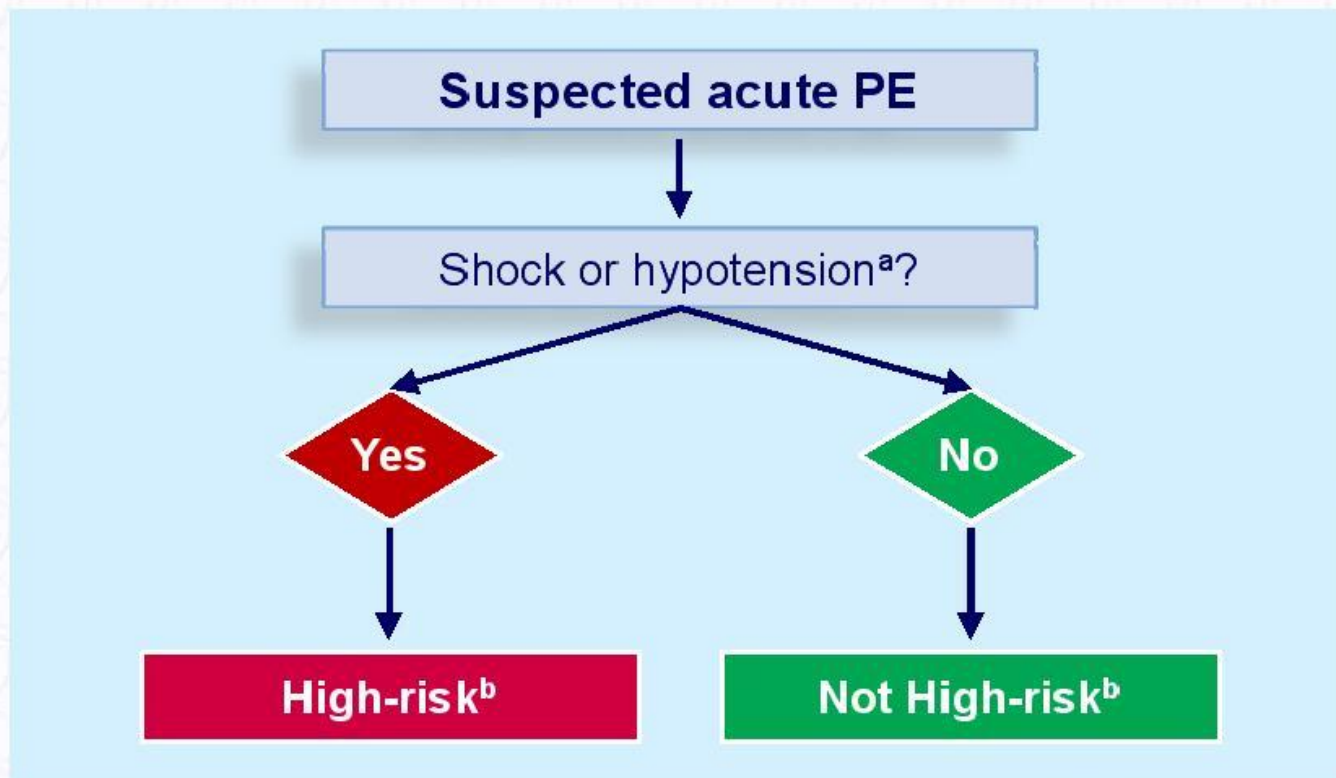
**1/3  
of DVT  
complicate with  
a clot in the  
lungs**

# Key factors contributing to haemodynamic collapse in acute pulmonary embolism



BP = blood pressure; CO = cardiac output; LV = left ventricular; RV = right ventricular; TV = tricuspid valve.

# Initial risk stratification of acute PE



<sup>a</sup> Defined as systolic blood pressure <90 mmHg, or a systolic pressure drop by  $\geq 40$  mmHg, for >15 minutes, if not caused by new-onset arrhythmia, hypovolaemia, or sepsis.

<sup>b</sup> Based on the estimated PE-related in-hospital or 30-day mortality.

# Classification of early mortality risk

Early mortality risk		Risk parameters and scores			
		Shock or hypotension	PESI Class III-V or sPESI $\geq 1$	Signs of RV dysfunction on an imaging test	Cardiac laboratory biomarkers
High		+	(+)	+	(+)
Intermediate	Intermediate-high	-	+	Both positive	
	Intermediate-low	-	+	Either one (or none) positive	
Low		-	-	Assessment optional; if assessed, both negative	

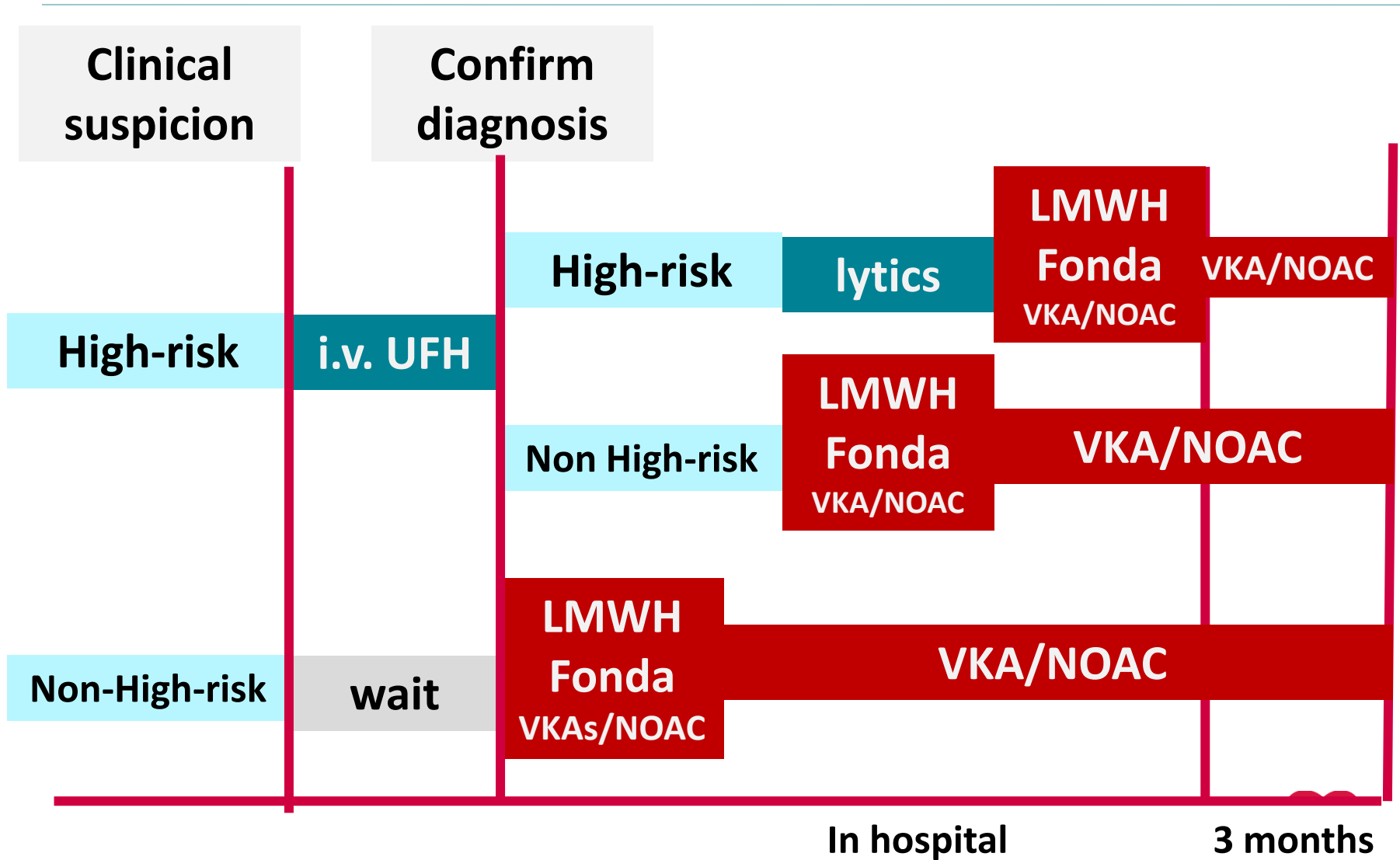
# Original and simplified pulmonary embolism severity index (PESI)

Parameter	Original version	Simplified version
Age	Age in years	1 point (if age >80 years)
Male sex	+10	–
Cancer	+30	1
Chronic heart failure	+10	1
Chronic pulmonary disease	+10	
Pulse rate $\geq 110$ b.p.m.	+20	1
Systolic blood pressure <100 mmHg	+30	1
Respiratory rate >30 breaths per minute	+20	–
Temperature <36°C	+20	–
Altered mental status	+60	–
Arterial oxyhaemoglobin saturation <90%	+20	1

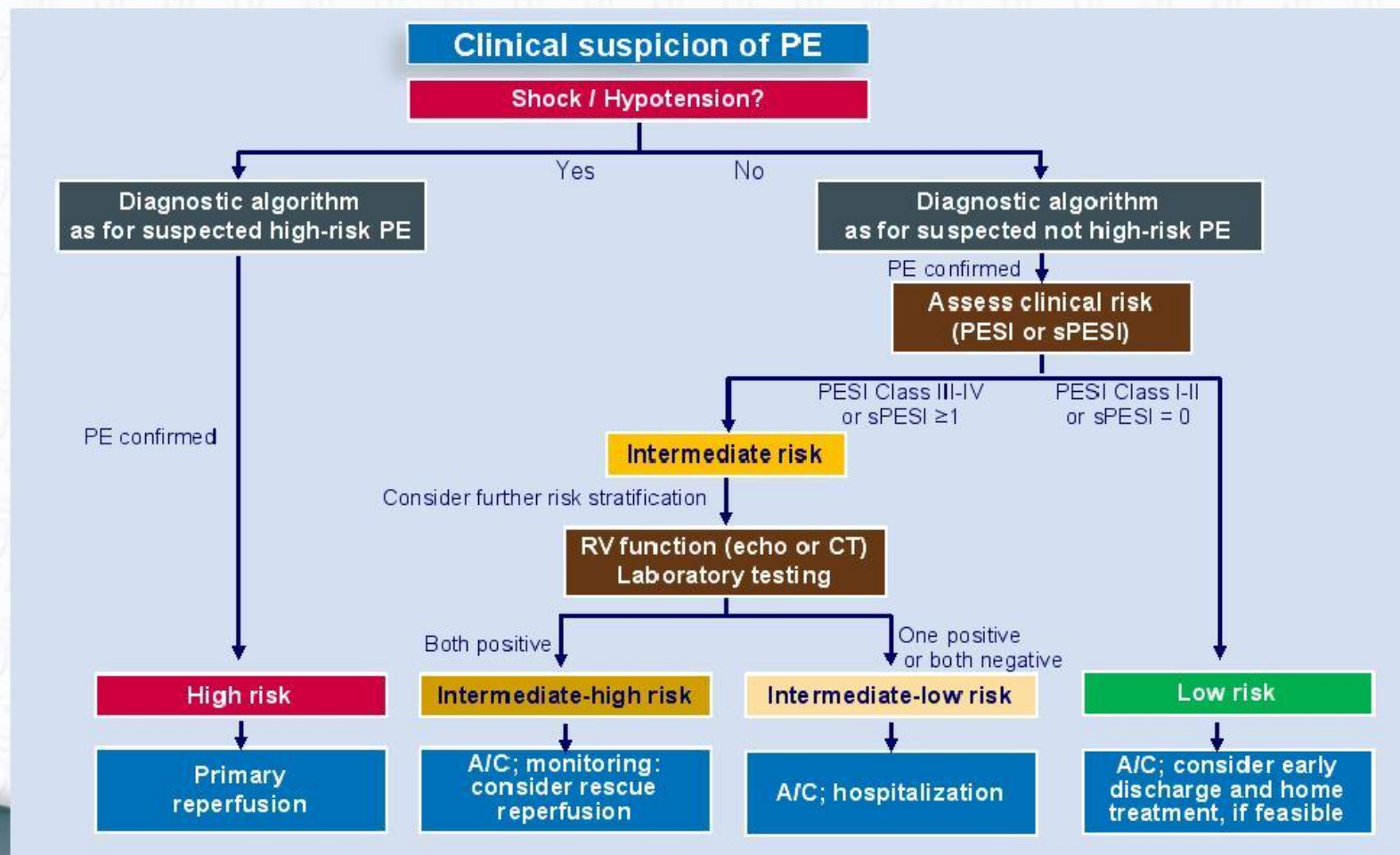
# Original and simplified pulmonary embolism severity index (PESI)

Parameter	Original version	Simplified version
	Risk strata	
	<b>Class I: <math>\leq 65</math> points</b> very low 30-day mortality risk (0-1.6%) <b>Class II: 66-85 points</b> low mortality risk (1.7-3.5%)  <b>Class III: 86-105 points</b> moderate mortality risk (3.2-7.1%) <b>Class IV: 106-125 points</b> high mortality risk (4.0-11.4%) <b>Class V: <math>&gt;125</math> points</b> very high mortality risk (10.0-24.5%)	<b>0 points</b> = 30-day mortality risk 1.0% (95% CI 0.0%-2.1%)      <b><math>\geq 1</math> point(s)</b> = 30-day mortality risk 10.9% (95% CI 8.5%-13.2%)

# Standard of care for PE



# Risk-adjusted management algorithm



# Key messages

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- **Prophylaxis and early recognition are the keys to change the prognosis in patients with DVT**
- **The workflow is based on the risk stratification. The higher the risk more aggressive pharmacological treatment should be**
- **Antithrombotics mostly anticoagulants are very effective not only for prevention but also for treatment**
- **Pulmonary embolism should be prevented. The acute management is based on the level of risk**

**Many thanks**

# **Understanding thrombosis in venous thromboembolism**

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