



# Survey about Venous Thrombo-Embolic (VTE) Prophylaxis

**Nurses**

Dear staff member,

This is a short survey about **venous thromboembolism (VTE)** at your hospital organization. Venous Thromboembolism (VTE) is comprised of deep vein thrombosis (DVT) and pulmonary embolism (PE).

It will take about 5 minutes of your time to fill out the survey.

**Completion of the survey is voluntary.** We are collecting information about your job and your perceptions about VTE. You may leave blank any questions you do not want to answer. Your responses are strictly confidential and will be closely guarded. Research staff will be the only people to see your answers. Your name and other identifying information will not be associated with your survey answers. All results of this study will be reported in the aggregate so that no one person can be identified. No answers of individuals will ever be released.

It is our hope that through the information we obtain from this study, we can better understand how VTE prophylaxis has an impact on patient care.

Thank you for your consideration.

## Instructions

To answer the questions, check the appropriate box on the scale. For example:

	1. Not very important	2.	3.	4. Moderately important	5.	6.	7. Very important
1. How important an issue is the prevention of VTE in hospitalized patients?	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 6	<input type="checkbox"/> 7

Some questions will require answers similar to the scale above, while other questions will require different responses. Please try to be as accurate as possible.

**Section A. About your job...**

1. Please, check your current job position:

- <sub>1</sub> Registered Nurse (RN)
- <sub>2</sub> Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN)
- <sub>3</sub> Other .....

2. On which unit do you work?

- <sub>1</sub> Trauma and Life Support Center (TLC)
- <sub>2</sub> D4/4
- <sub>3</sub> D4/6
- <sub>4</sub> D6/5
- <sub>5</sub> F6/5
- <sub>6</sub> Other: .....

3. What is your gender?

- <sub>1</sub> Male
- <sub>2</sub> Female

4. How old are you?

- <sub>1</sub> 24 years or younger
- <sub>2</sub> 25-29
- <sub>3</sub> 30-34
- <sub>4</sub> 35-39
- <sub>5</sub> 40-44
- <sub>6</sub> 45-49
- <sub>7</sub> 50-54
- <sub>8</sub> 55-59
- <sub>9</sub> 60 years or older

5. How long have you worked at your current healthcare organization?

\_\_\_\_\_ years      \_\_\_\_\_ months

Venous Thromboembolism (VTE) is comprised of Deep Vein Thrombosis (DVT) and Pulmonary Embolism (PE)

## Section B. Perceptions about Venous Thromboembolism (VTE) prophylaxis...

The following questions are about your *perceptions* regarding VTE prophylaxis.

1. How important an issue is the prevention of VTE in hospitalized patients?	Not very important <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	Moderately important <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>5</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>6</sub>	Very important <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>7</sub>
2. To your knowledge, how effective are currently used anticoagulant strategies for the prevention of VTE in hospitalized patients?	Not very effective at all <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	Moderately effective <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>5</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>6</sub>	Very effective <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>7</sub>
3. How safe are currently used anticoagulant strategies for the prevention of VTE in hospitalized patients?	Not very safe at all <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	Neither unsafe, nor safe <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>5</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>6</sub>	Very safe <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>7</sub>
4. How under- or over-utilized are current anti-coagulant strategies?	Under-utilized <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	Appropriately utilized <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>5</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>6</sub>	Over-utilized <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>7</sub>

## Section C. Possible barriers to VTE prophylaxis...

The following questions are about *possible system barriers* to VTE prophylaxis. Please rate the following system barriers to VTE prophylaxis in your hospital on a scale from 1 (not a barrier) to 7 (very large barrier).

	Not a barrier	Very small barrier	Small barrier	Moderate barrier	Substantial barrier	Large barrier	Very large barrier
1. Lack of <b>time</b> to consider VTE prophylaxis in every patient.	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>5</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>6</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>7</sub>
2. Lack of clear <b>indications</b> for VTE prophylaxis (i.e., who should get prophylaxis).	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>5</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>6</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>7</sub>
3. Lack of clear <b>contra-indications</b> for VTE prophylaxis (i.e., who should not get prophylaxis).	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>5</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>6</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>7</sub>
4. Lack of <b>awareness</b> about effectiveness of VTE prophylaxis.	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>5</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>6</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>7</sub>
5. Lack of <b>physician agreement</b> with current VTE prophylaxis guidelines.	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>5</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>6</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>7</sub>
6. <b>Patient discomfort</b> from subcutaneous injections of anticoagulants.	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>5</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>6</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>7</sub>
7. Clinician concerns about increased <b>bleeding risk</b> from anticoagulant administration.	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>5</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>6</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>7</sub>
8. Use of VTE prophylaxis (e.g. Lovenox) increases the risk of bleeding when <b>ambulating</b> the patient	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>5</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>6</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>7</sub>

## Section D. Effectiveness of interventions to increase VTE prophylaxis...

The next questions are about the **possible effectiveness of (potential) interventions** to address VTE prophylaxis. Please read the different options carefully because there are minor differences between some of the different options. Not all of the options below are technologically feasible with the current state of the art.

	Very ineffective		Neither ineffective nor effective				Very effective
1. <i>Yearly multidisciplinary educational meetings</i> for healthcare professionals to review VTE prophylaxis in hospitalized patients.	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>5</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>6</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>7</sub>
2. <i>Posters on the units</i> to remind healthcare professionals about VTE prophylaxis.	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>5</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>6</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>7</sub>
3. <i>Laminated pocket cards</i> to remind healthcare professionals about VTE prophylaxis.	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>5</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>6</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>7</sub>
4. <i>Order sets</i> to remind healthcare professionals about VTE prophylaxis.	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>5</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>6</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>7</sub>
5. <i>A hard stop in the admission order set</i> to make sure that VTE prophylaxis is assessed.	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>5</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>6</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>7</sub>
6. <i>A risk assessment tool in the admission order set</i> to create a VTE prophylaxis order based on patient's low, medium or high risk for VTE.	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>5</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>6</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>7</sub>
7. <i>Semi-automated computer decision support</i> that automatically calculates the patient's VTE risk	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>5</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>6</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>7</sub>
8. <i>Computerized reminders (alerts)</i> to prompt physicians to consider VTE prophylaxis upon opening a patient's medical record.	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>5</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>6</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>7</sub>
9. <i>Physician progress note template</i> that prompts for VTE prophylaxis.	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>5</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>6</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>7</sub>
10. <i>Computerized alert</i> to inform physicians that VTE prophylaxis has been <b>interrupted</b> and may need to be resumed.	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>5</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>6</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>7</sub>
11. <i>Computerized alert</i> to inform physicians that <i>VTE contraindications</i> have <b>changed</b> .	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>5</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>6</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>7</sub>
12. <i>Nurse reminders</i> to the physician about VTE prophylaxis.	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>5</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>6</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>7</sub>
13. <i>Pharmacist reminders</i> to the physician about VTE prophylaxis.	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>5</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>6</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>7</sub>
14. <i>Physical therapist reminders</i> to the physician about VTE prophylaxis.	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>5</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>6</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>7</sub>
15. <i>Periodic audit and feedback</i> on compliance with VTE prevention practice guidelines.	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>5</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>6</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>7</sub>
16. <i>Use of a local opinion leader</i> to promote evidence-based use of VTE prophylaxis guidelines.	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>5</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>6</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>7</sub>

## Section E. "Guestimates" of VTE prophylaxis ...

In the following section you are asked to "guestimate" how often VTE prophylaxis is ordered and interrupted (for example because of a procedure) and afterwards resumed. We do realize that it is not easy to guestimate those percentages. However, several studies have shown that group guestimates (the average of all guestimates) are fairly accurate.

1. Overall, what percentage of patients is appropriately put on VTE prophylaxis at admission?

0-10%	11-20%	21-30%	31-40%	41-50%	51-60%	61-70%	71-80%	81-90%	91-100%
<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 6	<input type="checkbox"/> 7	<input type="checkbox"/> 8	<input type="checkbox"/> 9	<input type="checkbox"/> 10

2. For what percentage of patients is VTE prophylaxis **interrupted** or stopped during a patient stay, e.g., because of a procedure?

0-10%	11-20%	21-30%	31-40%	41-50%	51-60%	61-70%	71-80%	81-90%	91-100%
<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 6	<input type="checkbox"/> 7	<input type="checkbox"/> 8	<input type="checkbox"/> 9	<input type="checkbox"/> 10

3. When VTE prophylaxis has been interrupted (e.g., because the patient needs to undergo a procedure), for what percentage of patients is VTE prophylaxis **resumed** after the interruption?

0-10%	11-20%	21-30%	31-40%	41-50%	51-60%	61-70%	71-80%	81-90%	91-100%
<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 6	<input type="checkbox"/> 7	<input type="checkbox"/> 8	<input type="checkbox"/> 9	<input type="checkbox"/> 10

## Section F. Who is best equipped to take care of VTE prophylaxis during the patient stay...

The final three questions are about different roles and responsibilities for VTE prophylaxis (select one role for each activity).

Which clinician group is best able (select one)	Attending physician	Fellow	Physician assistant or Nurse Practitioner	Resident	Consultant physician	Nurse	Pharmacist	Physical therapist
1. ... to provide <i>daily assessment</i> of patient need for VTE prophylaxis?	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 6	<input type="checkbox"/> 7	<input type="checkbox"/> 8
2. ... to <i>ensure</i> VTE prophylaxis is <i>ordered</i> ?	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 6	<input type="checkbox"/> 7	<input type="checkbox"/> 8
3. ... to <i>ensure adherence</i> once VTE prophylaxis is prescribed?	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 6	<input type="checkbox"/> 7	<input type="checkbox"/> 8

Thank you for your participation!