

UNDERSTANDING BLOOD CLOTS

WHAT ARE BLOOD CLOTS?

Blood clots in the veins, also known as venous thromboembolism (VTE), are a serious medical condition that can cause disability and even death.



Venous blood clots most often form in the deep veins of the leg, a condition referred to as **deep-vein thrombosis (DVT)**.

DVT can become life-threatening if the clot breaks free and becomes lodged in the arteries of the lung, which is called a **pulmonary embolism (PE)**.

Blood clots are preventable and can be treated.



Blood clots do not discriminate by age, gender, or race. They can affect ANYONE.

PREVALENCE

As many as **900,000** PEOPLE

are estimated to be affected each year in the United States.¹



of people will have a recurrence within 10 years.¹

Roughly **1 OUT OF 10** hospital deaths are related to blood clots in the lung.²

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RISK FACTORS

Almost anyone can develop a blood clot; however, there are certain factors that increase the risk. The risk increases more for individuals who possess two or more risk factors:



NEW ASH VTE GUIDELINES

In 2018, ASH partnered with the McMaster Univeristy GRADE centre, a world leader in guideline development and an authority on thrombosis, and more than 100 experts including hematologists, clinicians in other specialties, and patient representatives, to synthesize the research and develop new clinical practice guidelines for VTE.



For more information on these new guidelines, visit: www.hematology.org/VTE.

The American Society of Hematology (ASH) (www.hematology.org) is the world's largest professional society of hematologists dedicated to furthering the understanding, diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of disorders affecting the blood. For more than 50 years, the Society has led the development of hematology as a discipline by promoting research, patient care, education, training, and advocacy in hematology.

REFERENCES

- 1 https://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/dvt/data.html
- 2 https://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/dvt/hospitalization-infographic.html
- 3 https://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/dvt/ha-vte.html