

# DVT & PE

Mr Colin Dibble Consultant in Emergency Medicine North Manchester General Hospital 1



# DVT & PE

Mr Colin Dibble
Consultant in Emergency Medicine
North Manchester General Hospital

# Contents

- Introduction
- DVT Features
  - Wells Score
  - D-dimer
  - Diagnosis
  - Treatment
- Pulmonary Embolism
  - Clinical Features
  - Investigation
  - Management

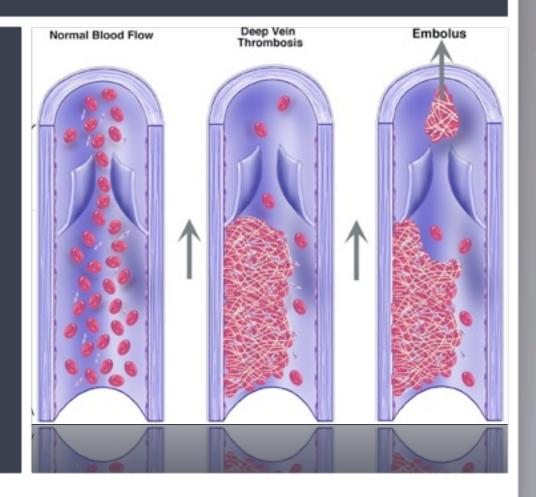


## Introduction

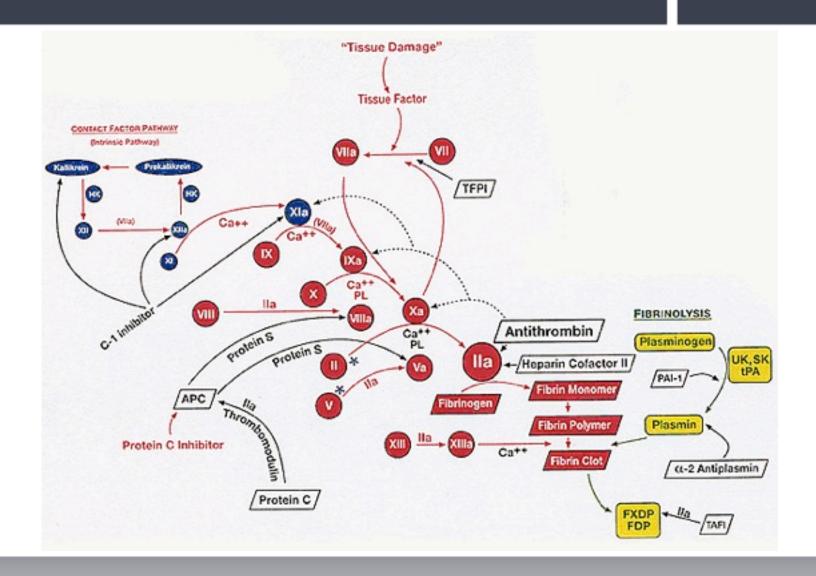
- Occurs in 20% of surgical patients
- <25% ?DVT confirmed</p>
- Risk of PE, mainly above knee DVT's, conflicting evidence

## Introduction

- Occurs in 20% of surgical patients
- <25% ?DVT confirmed</p>
- Risk of PE, mainly above knee DVT's, conflicting evidence



# Thromboembolic Pathophysiology



## Thromboembolic Pathophysiology

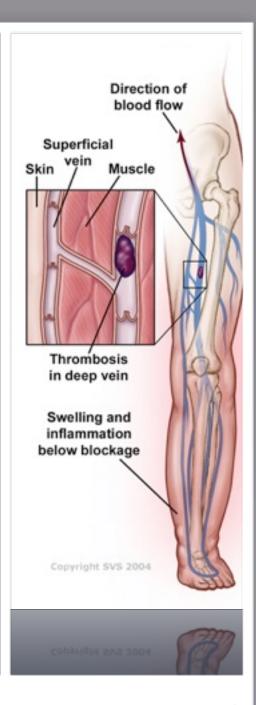
- Virchows Triad (stasis, vessel wall injury, hypercoaguable state)
  - Stasis: Immobility, surgery, casts
  - Vessel wall injury:trauma, sepsis, IVDA
  - Hypercoaguable state:
    - Primary- Antithrombin and heparin cofactor II deficiencies, Protein C and Protein S deficiencies, Factor V Leiden, Disorders of the fibrinolytic system, Dysfibrinogenemias, Lupus anticoagulant and anticardiolipin antibody syndrome, Prothrombin gene variant
    - Secondary- dehydration, pregnancy, OCP, malignancy, HONK
- Usually in valve cusps of calf veins, only 20% propagate proximally
- Spontanous lysis/recanalisation <10%</p>

## **DVT** Features

- ▶ 65% below knee DVT's asymptomatic
- Calf swelling & tenderness in 75 & 80% DVTs respectively
- Mild fever
- Pitting oedema, redness
- Increased visible superficial veins
- Young active men, recent physical exertion with swollen sore arm=axillary vein DVT

## **DVT** Features

- ▶ 65% below knee DVT's asymptomatic
- Calf swelling & tenderness in 75 & 80% DVTs respectively
- Mild fever
- Pitting oedema, redness
- Increased visible superficial veins
- Young active men, recent physical exertion with swollen sore arm=axillary vein DVT



#### Wells Score

- Active cancer =1
- Paralysis, paresis, recentPOP =1
- Recently bedridden >3d or major Sx <12/52 =1</p>
- Localised deep vein tenderness = 1
- Entire leg swelling =1

- Calf >3cm swelling cf other leg =1
- Unilateral Pitting oedema=1
- Collateral superficial veins=1
- Other diagnosis?=-2

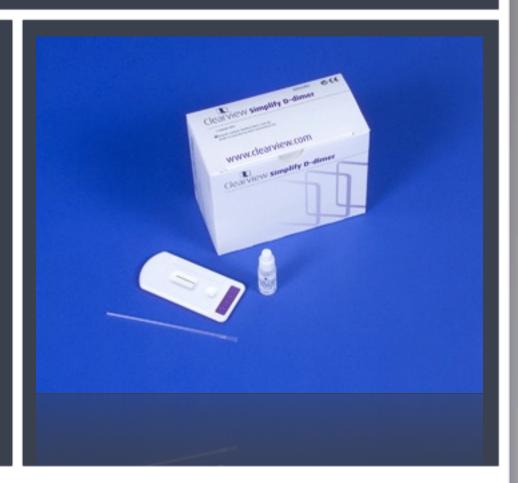
Score: Low=0 (3%), Mod=1-2 (17%), High=3+ (75%)

## D-dimer test

- ONLY useful in low risk patients
- Previous DVT/PE =high risk
- Non-specific, but sensitivei.e. good rule out test

## D-dimer test

- ONLY useful in low risk patients
- Previous DVT/PE =high risk
- Non-specific, but sensitivei.e. good rule out test

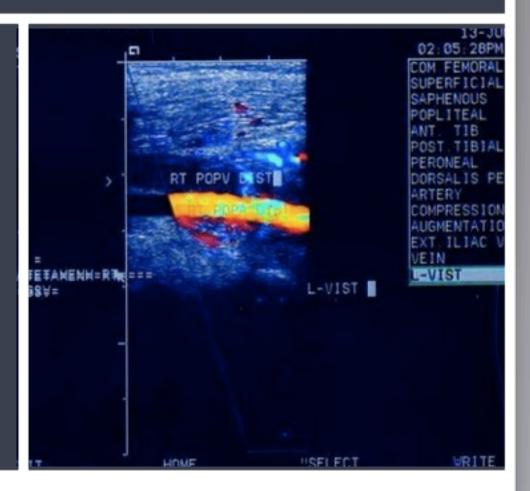


# Diagnosis

- Gold standard venographyrarely done
- Compression Doppler ultrasound scan

# Diagnosis

- Gold standard venographyrarely done
- Compression Doppler ultrasound scan

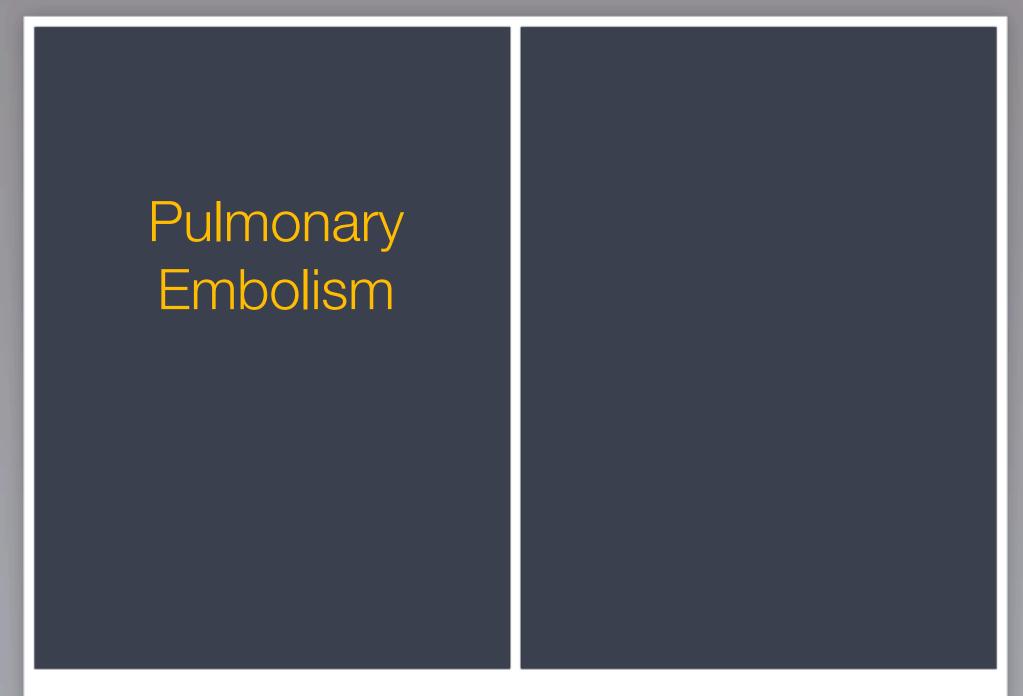




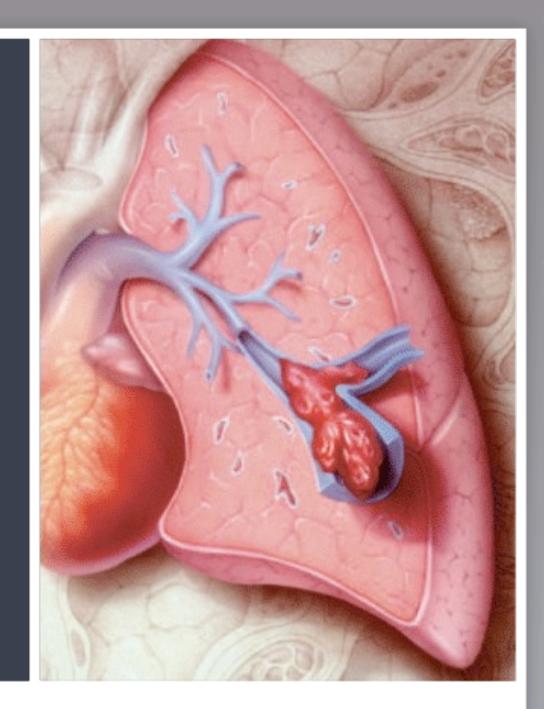
### Treatment

- Dalteparin or Enoxaparin while being investigated
- If high risk, refer Medics, do not need D-Dimer (or bloods)
- If confirmed: Warfarin for 6 months if no cause found and 3 months if post operative
- Recurrent- vena caval umbrella





# Pulmonary Embolism



### Introduction

- Common and lethal, third commonest cause of death in USA
- A third of people who survive a PE die from a subsequent embolism
- Most secondary to DVT, nearly everyone with proximal leg vein DVT will have a PE, less so with calf DVT
- Diagnosis often missed
- If very small ?risk of further PE or mortality

### Clinical Features

- None: may have no features if small.
- May have pleuritic chest pain, SOB, haemoptosis, signs and symptoms of DVT, abdo pain, or syncope.
- Mild fever, tachycardia, pleural rub
- Massive: PEA arrest, tachycardia, hypotension and hypoxia with cyanosis. Prominent JVP ('a' waves), pulmonary area murmur

# Thromboembolic risk factors



- IN PATIENTS WHO HAVE FEATURES COMPATIBLE WITH A PE: i.e. a PE is a 'reasonable diagnosis' after careful assessment and after a CXR;
  - ▶ PE more likely than alternative = +1
  - Any MAJOR risk factor = +1
- Probability: 2=high, 1=intermediate, 0=low
- Do D-dimer to rule out PE only in low/ intermediate probability. High: treat and VQ or CTPA via medics

Major risk factors (relative risk 5-20):

Surgery\*

Obstetrics

Major abdominal/pelvic surgery

• Hip/knee replacement

• Postoperative intensive care

Late pregnancy

Caesarian section

Puerperium

Lower limb problems

Fracture

Malignancy

Reduced mobility

Miscellaneous

• Varicose veins

Abdominal/pelvic

• Advanced/metastatic

Hospitalisation

Institutional care

• Previous proven VTE

Thus the scoring system and the 'rule out' process only starts AFTER you have already considered that a PE is a REASONABLE diagnosis

### Wells Score for PE

- Clinical Symptoms of DVT =3
- Other diagnosis less likely than PE =3
- Heart Rate greater than 100/ min =1.5
- Immobilisation/Surgery in previous 4 weeks =1.5
- Previous DVT/PE =1.5
- Haemoptosis =1

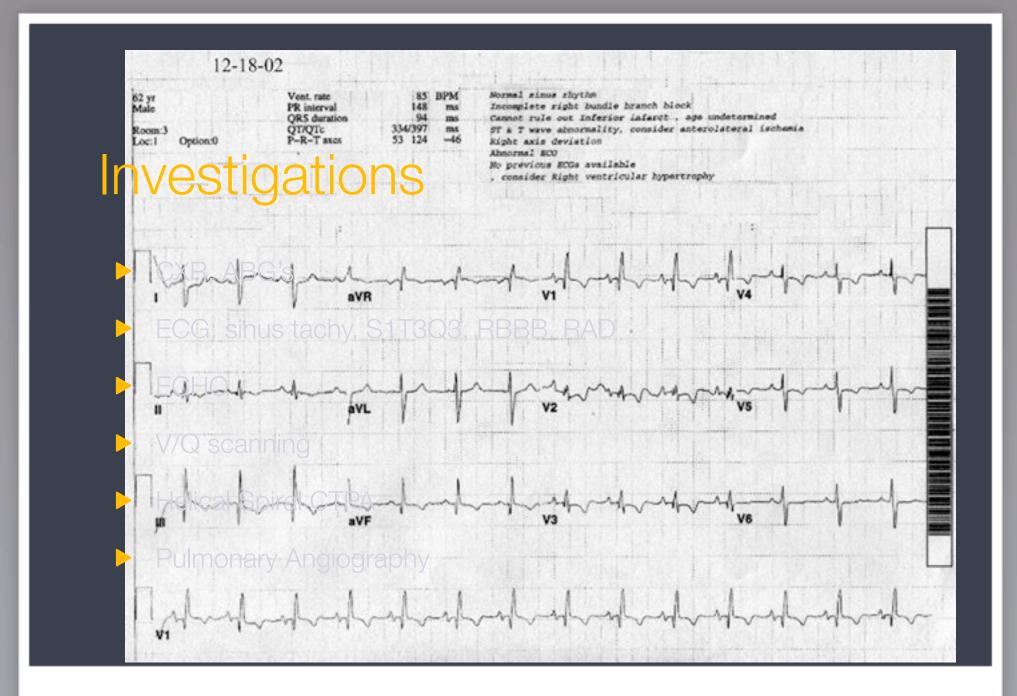
Malignancy =1

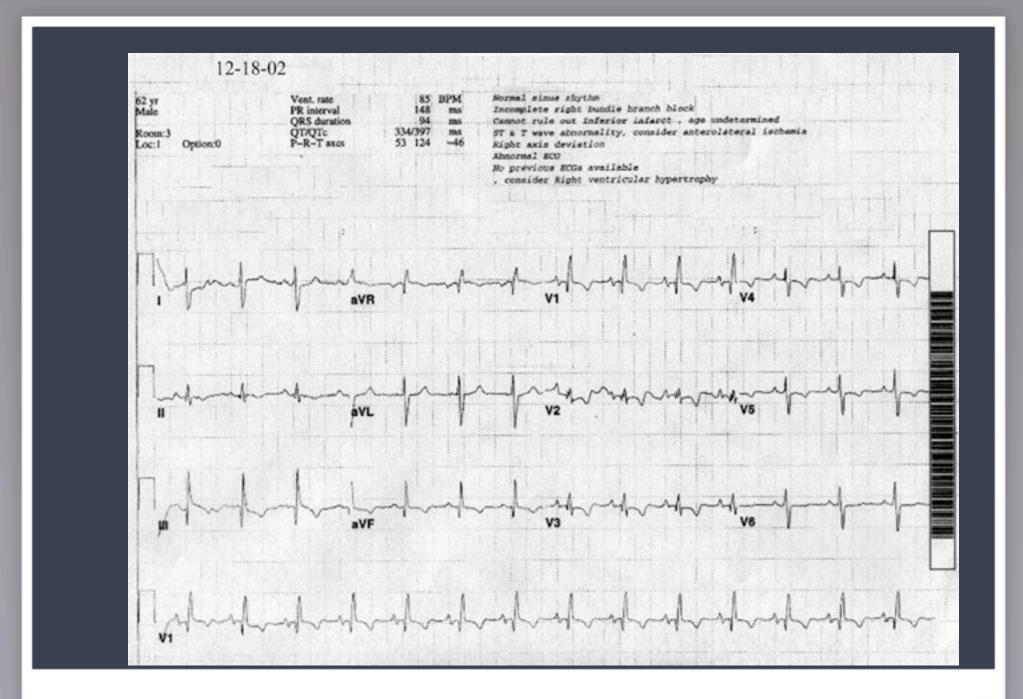
Low risk: <2 (3.4%)

Moderate risk: 2-6

(27%)

High risk: >6 (78.4%)

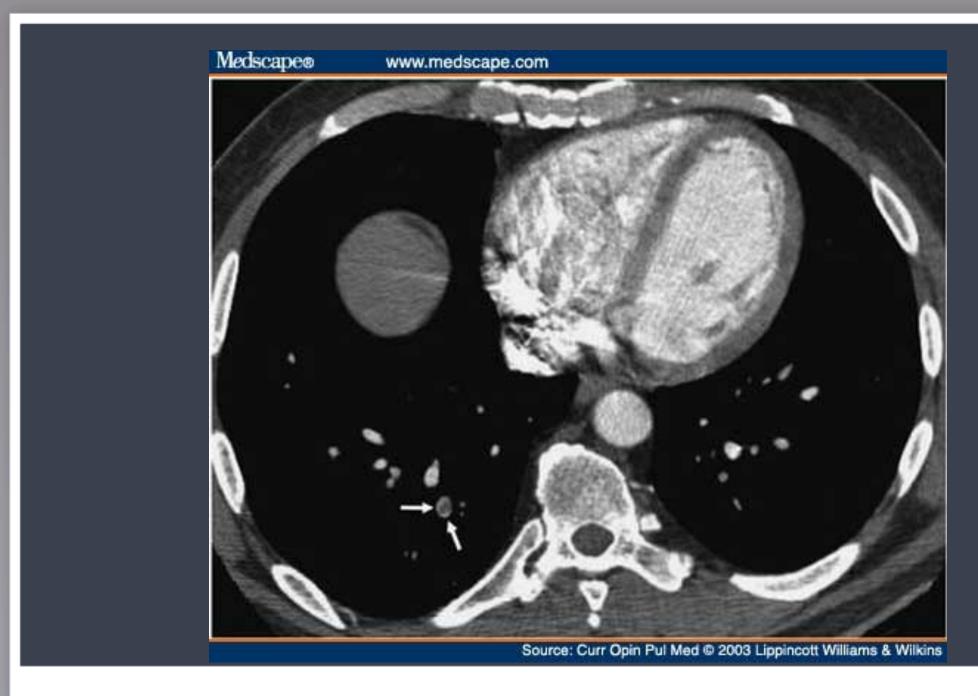




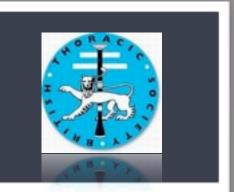


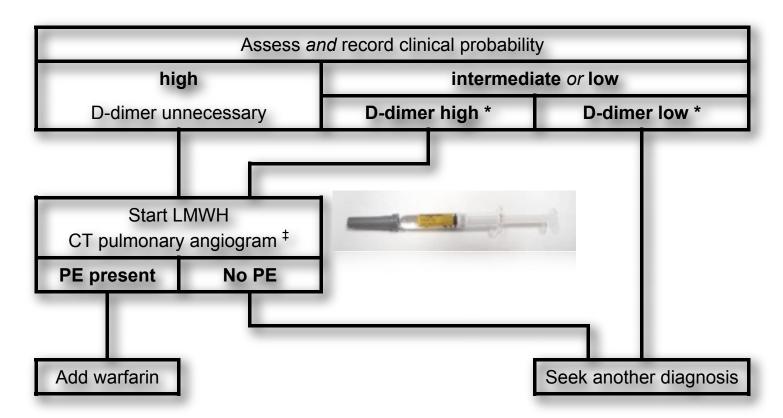


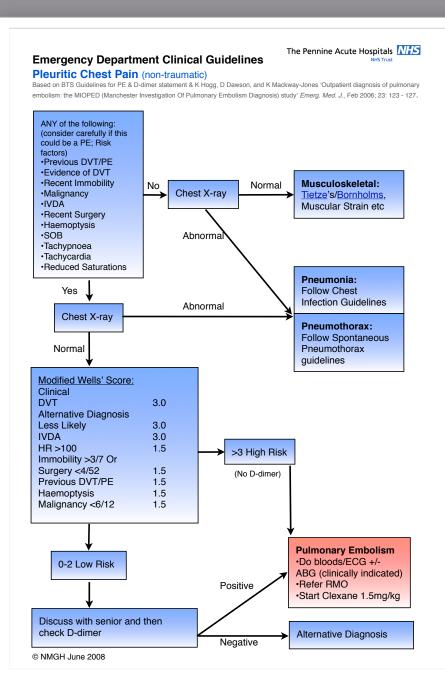




# Management-minor PE







- If suspect PE and d-dimer positive give LMWH
- Refer Medics
- Do ABGs if spO<sub>2</sub> low (<92%), not if normal. Evidence is that ABG are non-contributory to the diagnosis
- ECG in all, CXR in all, routine bloods
- If high risk, d-dimer not required, ?need any bloods?

# Management-major

- CPR as per standard ALS guidelines
- 'Vigorous' cardiac massage
- Thrombolysis if strongly suspected in arrest/peri-arrest;
  - ▶ Alteplase (tPA) 10mg iv over 1-2 mins the infusion 90mg over 2 hours
  - ▶ Streptokinase 250 000u/30mins then 100 000u/hr 12-72 hours



