

VTE Risk Assessment

A VTE risk assessment should be conducted for every patient that enters a hospital. This assessment helps to identify individuals who are at an increased risk of developing VTE and allows healthcare professionals to take appropriate measures to prevent the condition. The assessment is usually carried out within 24 hours of admission or when the patient's condition changes significantly.



The VTE risk assessment involves evaluating a range of factors that can increase the likelihood of developing VTE, such as age, obesity, smoking, pregnancy, medical conditions, and recent surgery or hospitalization. The assessment tool used by the NHS takes into account the patient's age, medical history, and mobility, among other factors. The assessment results are then used to determine the patient's risk of developing VTE, which can be low, moderate, or high.

Based on the patient's risk level, healthcare professionals may recommend measures to prevent VTE. These measures may include medication such as anticoagulants or blood thinners, compression stockings, and regular exercise or movement to improve circulation. Patients may also be advised to avoid sitting or standing for long periods and to stay hydrated. Patients who are at a high risk of VTE may also receive additional interventions such as mechanical prophylaxis, which involves using devices such as intermittent pneumatic compression (IPC) or graduated compression stockings to improve blood flow and prevent blood clots.

Overall, conducting a VTE risk assessment is an important part of patient care and safety. It helps to identify individuals who are at an increased risk of developing VTE and allows healthcare professionals to take appropriate measures to prevent this potentially life-threatening condition. By following the recommendations of the VTE risk assessment, patients can reduce their risk of developing VTE and improve their overall health outcomes.

**Remember:
Ask for a VTE Risk Assessment!**