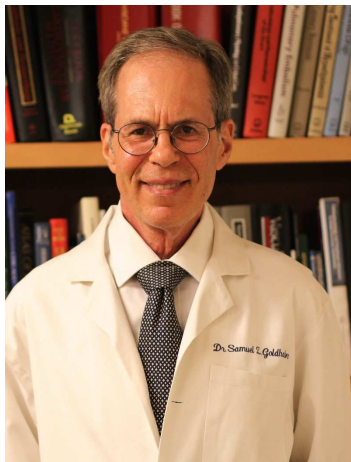


# Management of Venous Thromboembolism

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October 23, 2023



## Samuel Z. Goldhaber, MD



- Harvard Medical School
- Medicine Residency @BWH
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- Associate Chief and Clinical Director, CV Medicine Division @BWH
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  - Clinical focus: Vascular Medicine, especially Pulmonary Embolism
  - Research focus: Thrombosis

## Disclosures

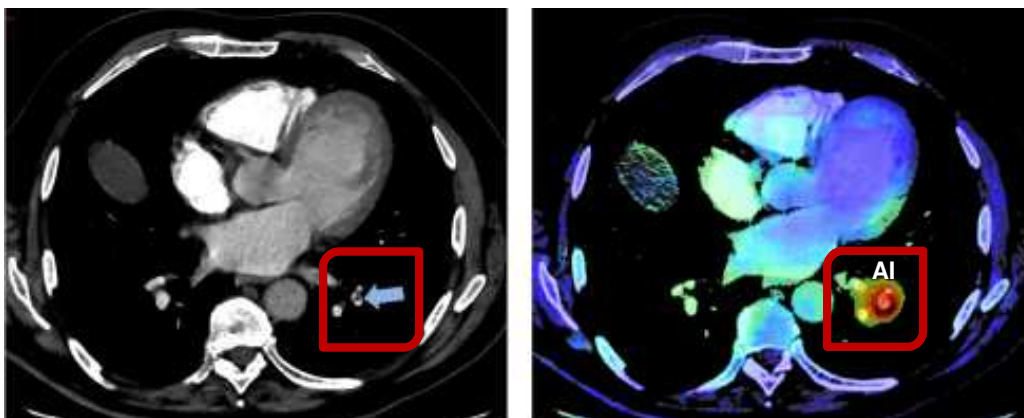
### Research Support:

- Bayer; BMS; Boston Scientific EKOS; Janssen; NHLBI

### Consultant:

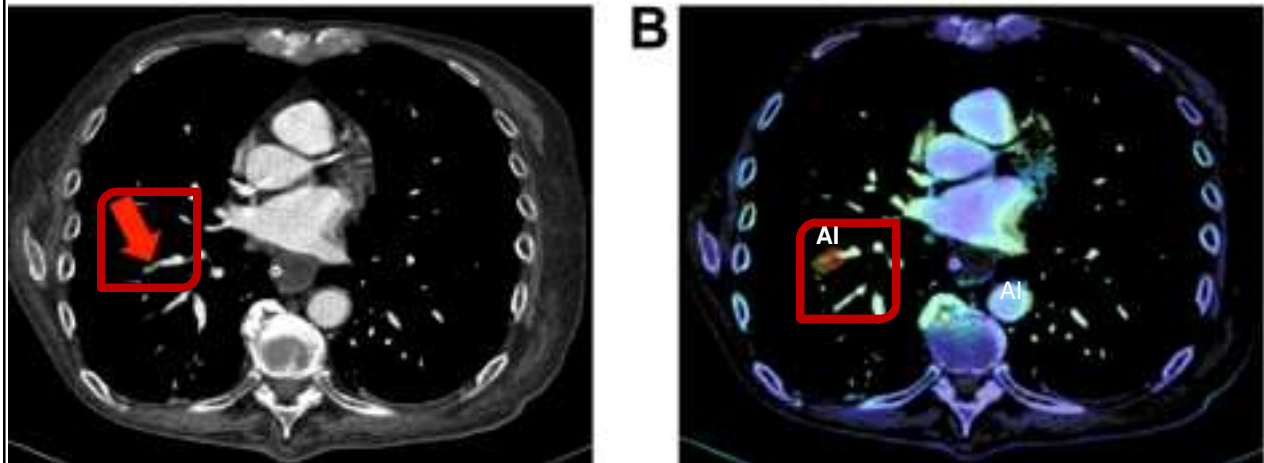
- None

## AI for Chest CT Pulmonary Angiogram



(Ben Cheikh A. European Radiology 2022; March 22)

## AI for Chest CT Pulmonary Angiogram



(Ben Cheikh A. European Radiology 2022; March 22)





**FATAL SADDLE PE: 41 y.o. woman**  
**with sudden collapse**

## **Itinerary**

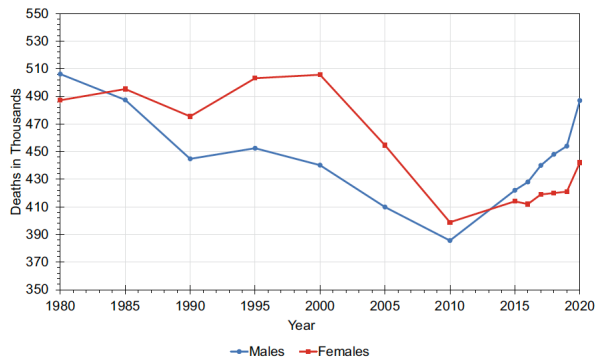
- 1) Epidemiology
- 2) Pathophysiology
- 3) Post Thrombotic Syndrome
- 4) Anticoagulation, Primarily DOACs
- 5) Optimal Duration of Anticoagulation
- 6) Advanced Therapies: Beyond Heparin

# Epidemiology

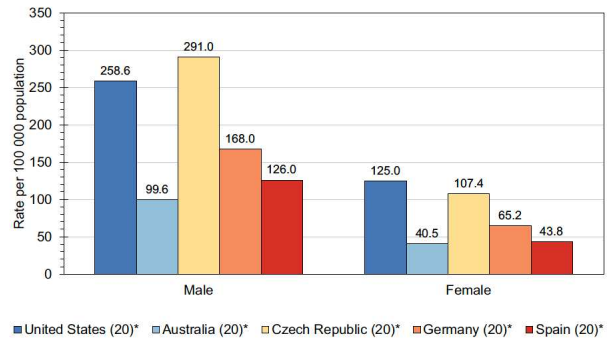
## Primary VTE Prevention

- 1) AHA Guidelines for exercise: at least 30 minutes per day for at least 6 days per week
- 2) Stay well hydrated (ideally, 2 L/day of water or Gatorade)
- 3) Heart-healthy lifestyle (e.g., no cigarettes)
- 4) Prevent or treat known triggers of VTE (e.g., obesity ( $\text{BMI} \geq 30$ ))

## CVD Deaths in the US 1980 - 2020



## CVD Death Rates in 2020



Tsao et al AHA Heart Disease & Stroke Statistics Circulation. 2023;147:e93–e621

## 2019-2020: Increased Heart Disease and Stroke Deaths

Figure 1. Age- and Risk-Associated Change in Heart Disease and Stroke Deaths

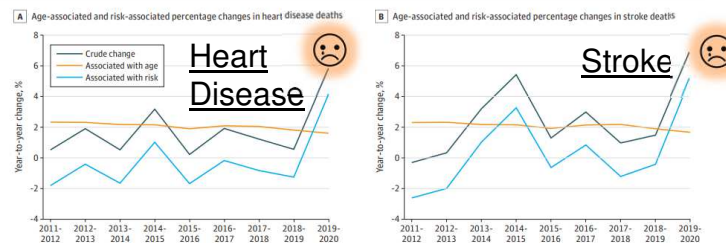
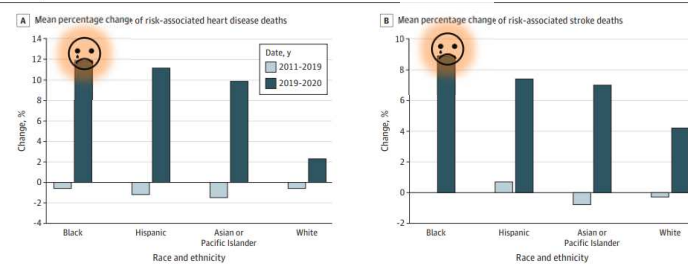


Figure 2. Change in Risk-Associated Heart Disease and Stroke Deaths

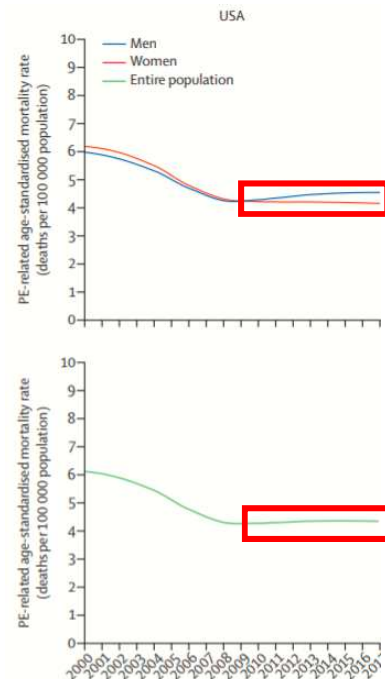


(JAMA Network Open 2022; March 23)

## PE-Related Age-Adjusted Mortality in USA

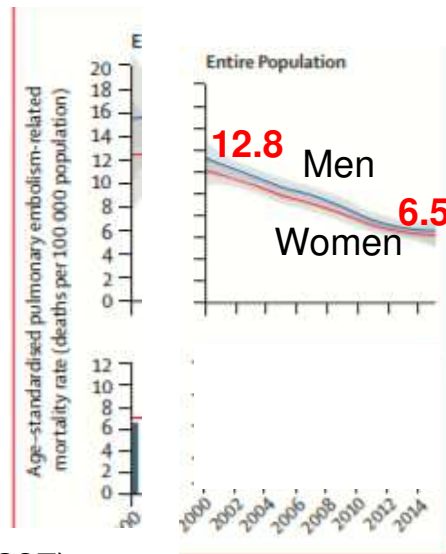
U.S. Mortality reduction in PE stopped in 2010, especially in men.

(Barco S. Lancet Respir Med 2021; 9: 33-42)



## Trends in PE Mortality in Europe and Asia

A continuous decrease in PE mortality from 2000 to 2015



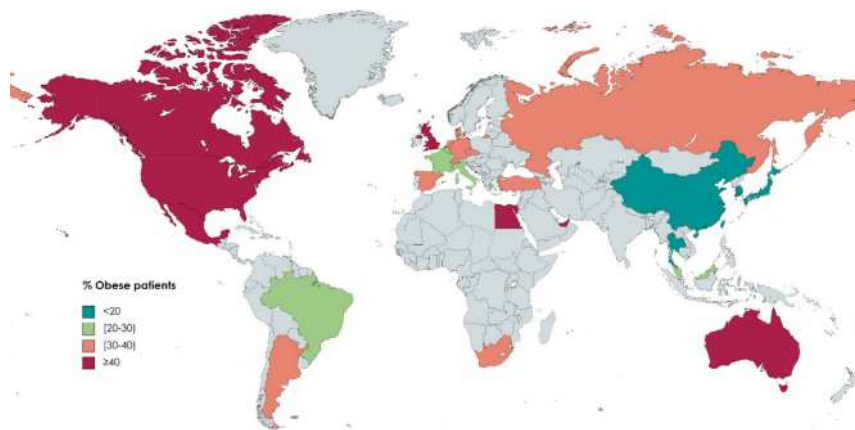
(Barco S. Lancet Respir Med 2020; 8: 277-287)

## Impact of Obesity

- Affects 41% of U.S. adults
- An excess of \$174 Billion healthcare expenses/yr
- New meds: up to 15% to 20% weight loss
- New meds: X20 expensive as older meds
- Treat and Reduce Obesity Act: seeks to expand Medicare Coverage of Antiobesity meds

15

## Distribution of Obese Patients according to Country



J Thromb Haemost 2021; 19: 3031–3043.



# VTE Attributed to Overweight/ Obesity: Norway

**Tromsø Study cohort**  
4th-7th surveys (1994-2016)  
**n= 36,341 participants**  
Assessment of body mass index (BMI) at baseline

25% of all VTE events can be attributed to overweight and obesity in a general population from Norway

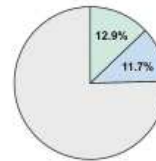


Median follow-up time of 13.9 years

1,051 incident VTE events

BMI (kg/m <sup>2</sup> )	Prevalence in VTE (%)	PAF % (95% CI)
Overall VTE		
<25	29.4	
25-30	45.3	12.9 (6.6-19.0)
≥30	25.3	11.7 (8.5-14.9)
Overweight and obesity		24.6 (16.6-32.9)

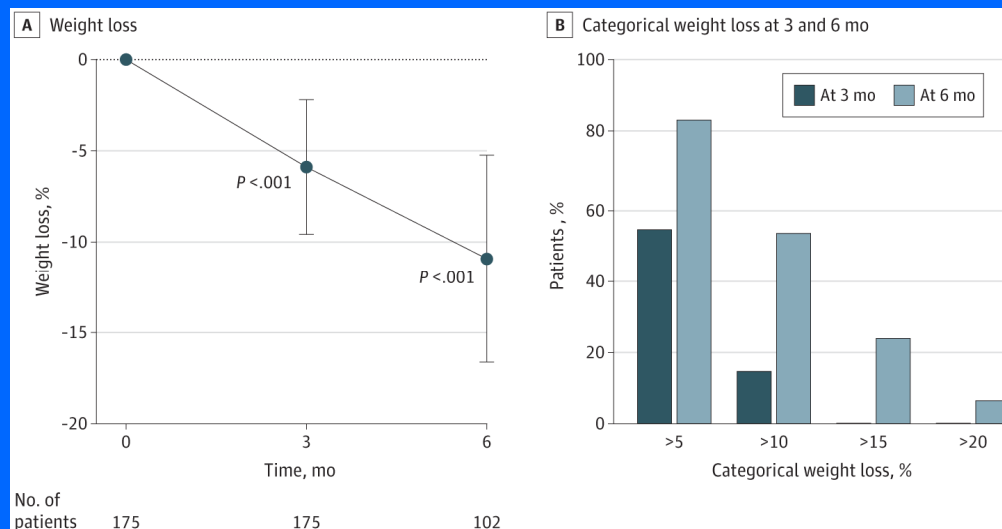
PAF of VTE due to overweight  
PAF of VTE due to obesity



**Visual summary.** Population attributable fraction (PAF) of venous thromboembolism (VTE) due to overweight and obesity - The Tromsø Study.

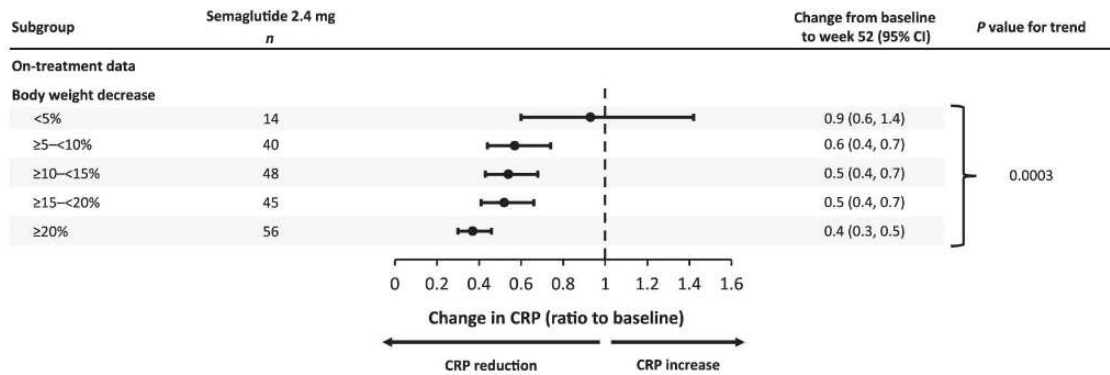
Thrombosis and Haemostasis 2023; August 7

# Semaglutide: Weight Loss at 3 and 6 Months



Ghush W. JAMA Netw Open 2022; Sep 1

## Relationship between weight loss with semaglutide and change in inflammation



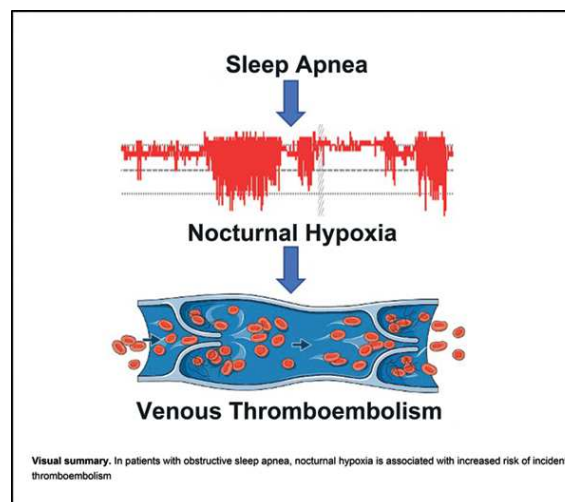
Nature Medicine 2023; August 27

## Pathophysiology

## Inflammation-Linked Conditions that Can Trigger PE or DVT

- Ulcerative colitis/ Crohn's disease
- Rheumatoid arthritis/ psoriasis
- Elevated LDL cholesterol or LP(a)
- Obesity/ metabolic syndrome
- Acute coronary syndrome/ stroke
- Pneumonia/ COPD
- Cigarette smoking

In OSA, nocturnal hypoxia is associated with increased VTE



Thromb Haemost 2023; 123: 393-401

# What Is the Association Between Obstructive Sleep Apnea (OSA) and Venous Thromboembolism (VTE)?



## STUDY DESIGN

- Retrospective cohort of adult patients undergoing baseline PSG in a large multihospital system

7/2004

31,309 patients



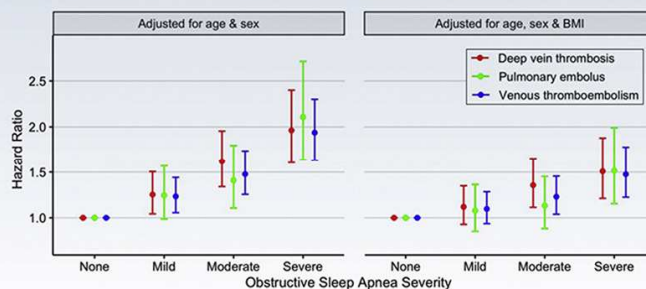
12/2018

1,791 VTE events



## RESULTS

### Risk of Thrombosis and Nocturnal Hypoxemia



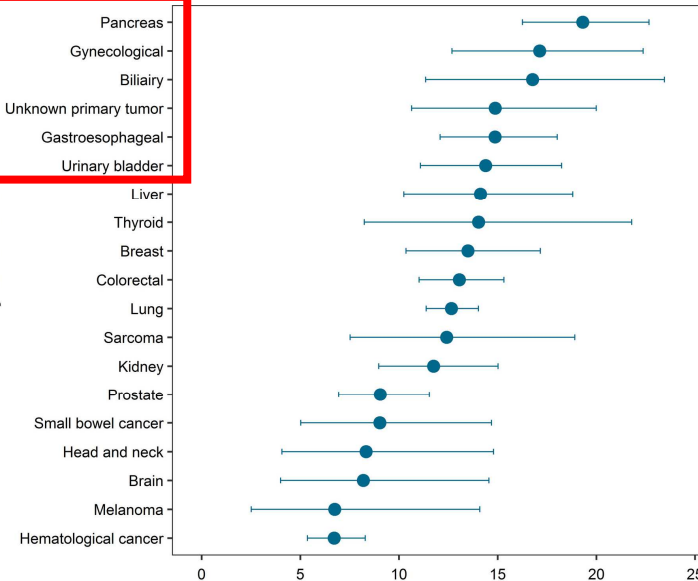
- Patients with >50% sleep time spent with saturations <90% are at increased VTE risk compared to those without nocturnal hypoxemia (HR 1.48, 95% CI 1.16-1.69)

Prolonged nocturnal hypoxemia is independently associated with incident VTE over longitudinal follow up.

Genuardi MV, et al. CHEST April 2022 | @journal CHEST | <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chest.2021.12.630>

## Cancer Sites in PE Patients

Primary cancer site



(Gimbel IA. JTH 2021; 19: 1228-1235)

## Lab Tests of Hypercoagulability

- Genetic: Factor V Leiden; PT Gene Mutation
- Acquired: Lupus Anticoagulant; Anticardiolipin Antibodies; Antiphospholipid Syndrome
- Genetic or Acquired: Deficiencies of antithrombin III, protein C, protein S

## Post Thrombotic Syndrome

## Post Thrombotic Syndrome

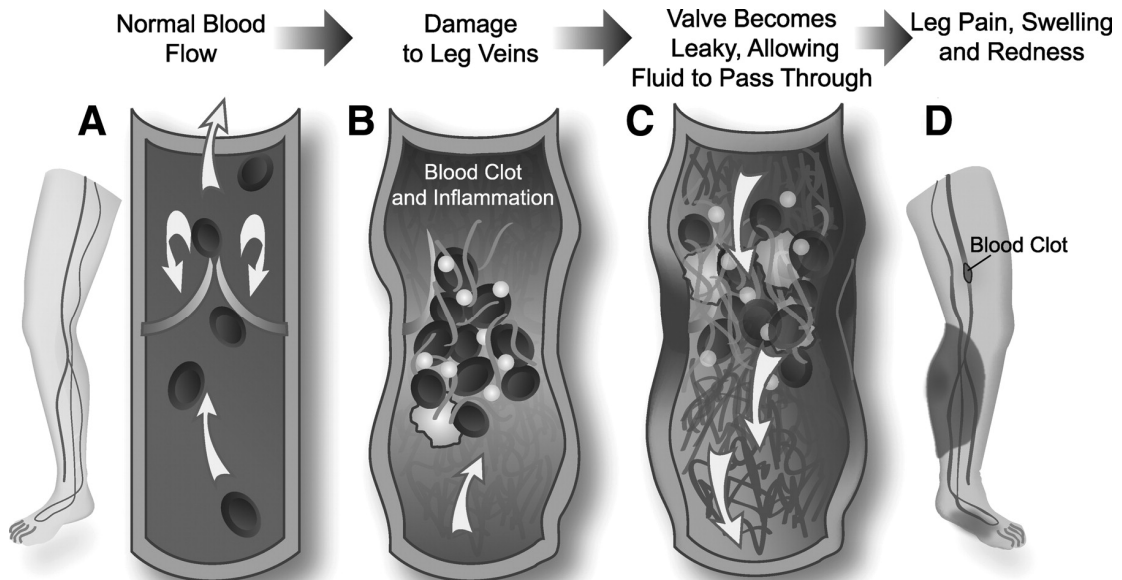
- Diagnosed clinically in patients with chronic venous insufficiency and a DVT  $\geq$  3 months previously
- Within two years after a DVT, 20–50% of patients will develop post thrombotic syndrome
- PTS: the main determinant of QOL after DVT
- PTS after a first distal DVT is less common than after a first proximal DVT

## Post Thrombotic Syndrome (PTS)

<u>SYMPTOMS</u>	<u>SIGNS</u>
Pain	Edema
Swelling	Telangiectasias
Cramps	Venous Dilatation
Heaviness	Varicose Veins
Fatigue	Redness
Itching	Cyanosis
Paresthesia	Hyperpigmentation

(Kahn SR. Circulation 2014; 130: 1636-1661)

## PTS: Valves in the leg veins become leaky



(Sara R. Vazquez, and Susan R. Kahn Circulation. 2010;121:e217-e219)

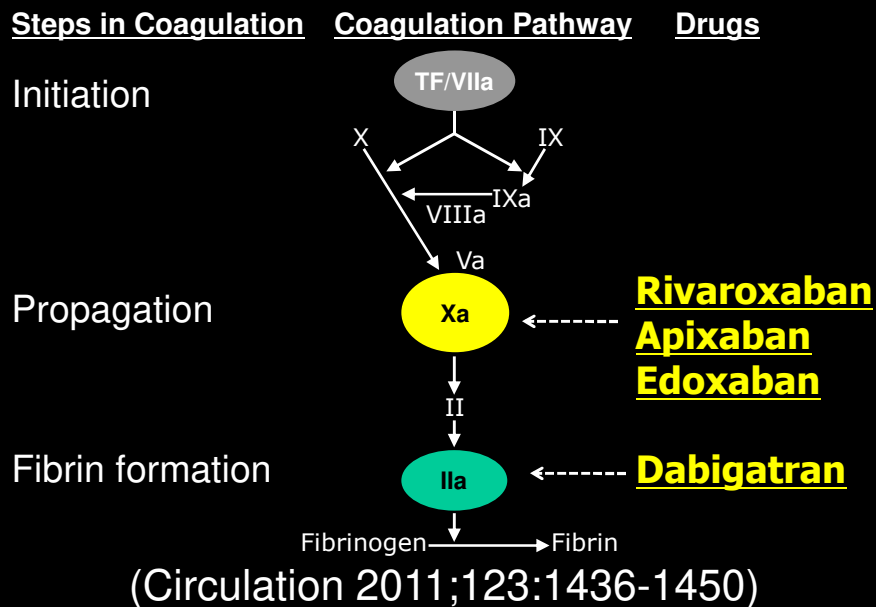
## Post Thrombotic Chronic Venous Ulcers: Decrease Quality of Life



# VTE Management Strategy

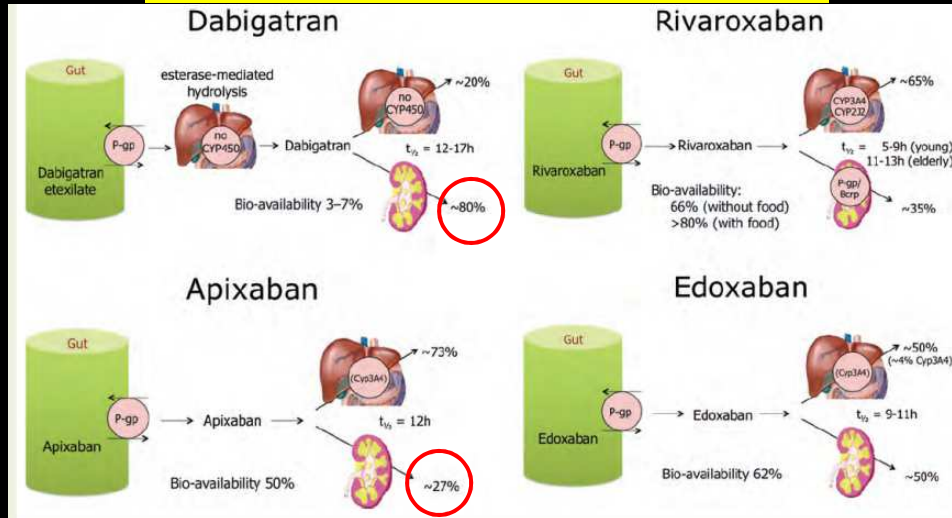
## Anticoagulants: Primarily DOACs

### DOACS: SITES OF ACTION





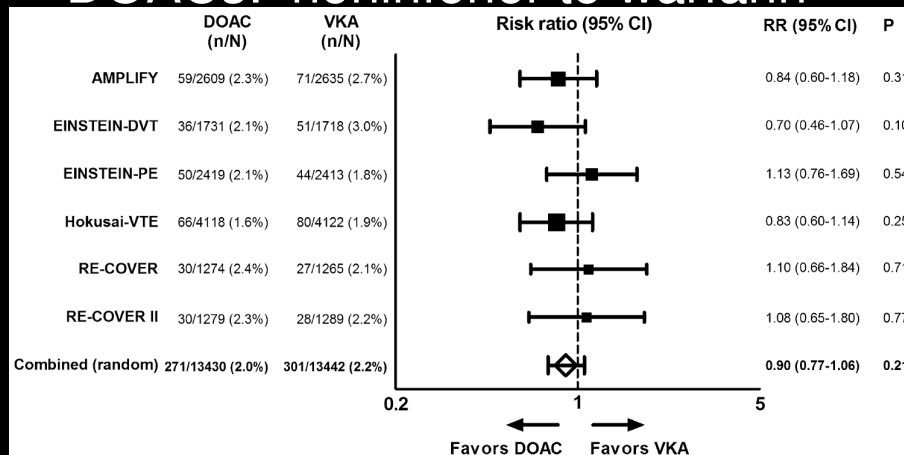
# DOACS DIFFER IN LIVER AND KIDNEY METABOLISM



(Europace 2013; 15: 625-651)

## ACUTE VTE TREATMENT: DOAC EFFICACY

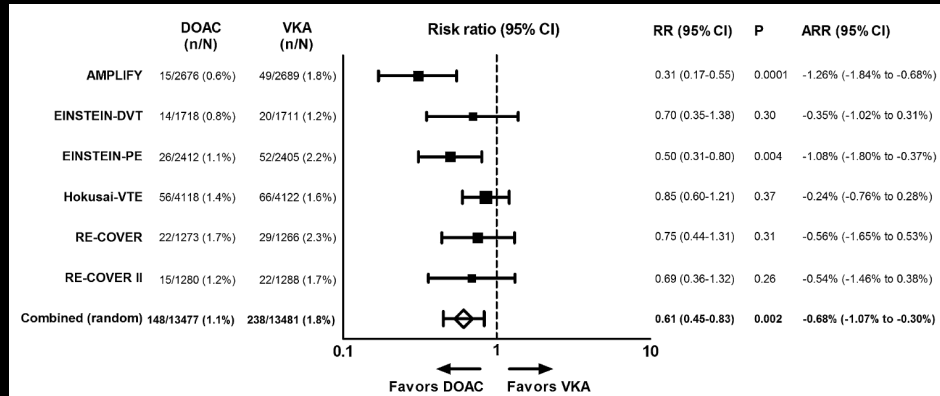
DOACs: noninferior to warfarin



(van Es N, et al. Blood 2014; 124: 1968-1975)

# ACUTE VTE TREATMENT: DOAC SAFETY (N=27,235)

DOACs: 39% lower major bleeding



(van Es N, et al. Blood 2014; 124: 1968-1975)

## Medicare Patient Copays

## Drugs Selected for Price “Negotiations”

- 1. **Eliquis**, for preventing strokes and blood clots, from Bristol Myers Squibb and Pfizer
- 2. **Jardiance**, for diabetes and heart failure, from Boehringer Ingelheim and Eli Lilly
- 3. **Xarelto**, for preventing strokes and blood clots, from Johnson & Johnson
- 4. **Januvia**, for diabetes, from Merck
- 5. **Farxiga**, for diabetes, heart failure and chronic kidney disease, from AstraZeneca
- 6. **Entresto**, for heart failure, from Novartis

## Inflation Reduction Act: Medicare

- Eliquis, taken by 3.7 million beneficiaries, has a monthly sticker price of about \$400
- Company opt out: 1) Can't sell to Medicare patients, or 2) Can sell but pay a 95% tax per sale
- The program overall (2026) is projected to save the government [\\$98.5 billion](#) over a decade
- \$35 monthly cap for copays on insulin (2025)
- \$2,000 annual cap for copays (2025)

## Inflation Reduction Act: Medicare

Six pharmaceutical manufacturers —

Astellas Pharma, AstraZeneca, Boehringer  
Ingelheim, Bristol Myers Squibb, Johnson &  
Johnson, and Merck —

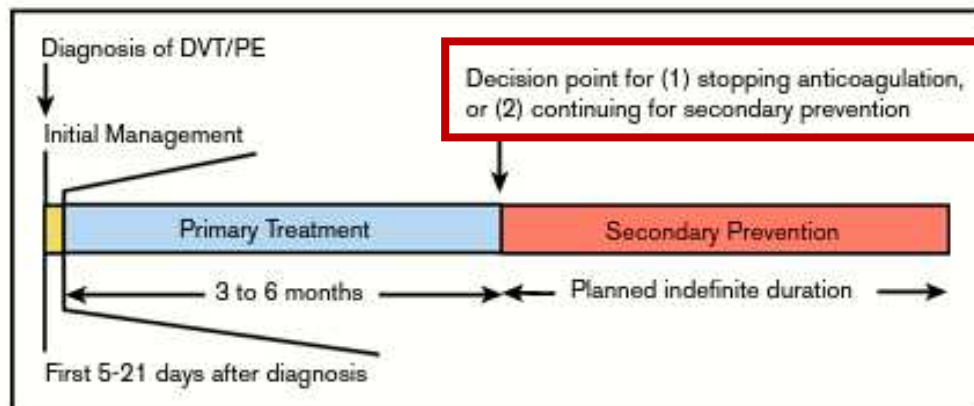
have taken the Biden administration to court in an  
attempt to block the negotiation program

**CAN DOACS REPLACE**  
**LMWH MONOTHERAPY**  
**IN CANCER PATIENTS**  
**WITH VTE?**

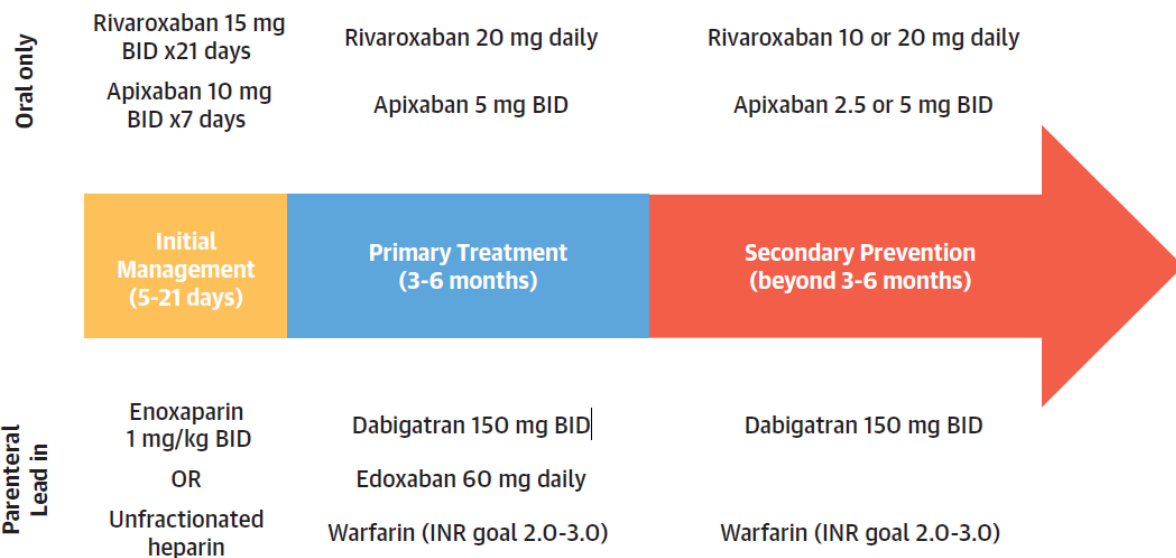
## CANCER / ACUTE VTE: DOAC vs. Dalteparin

<u>DOAC</u>	<u>Trial Result</u>
<b>Edoxaban (Hokusai)</b>	Better efficacy; Less GI safety; (NEJM 2018)
<b>Rivaroxaban (SELECT-D)</b>	Better efficacy; Less GI safety (J Clin Oncol 2018)
<b>Apixaban* (Caravaggio)</b>	Same efficacy; Same safety (NEJM 2020)

## Optimal Duration of Anticoagulation: The Most Controversial Question in PE Management



**FIGURE 1** Strategies for Anticoagulation Treatment by Phase of VTE

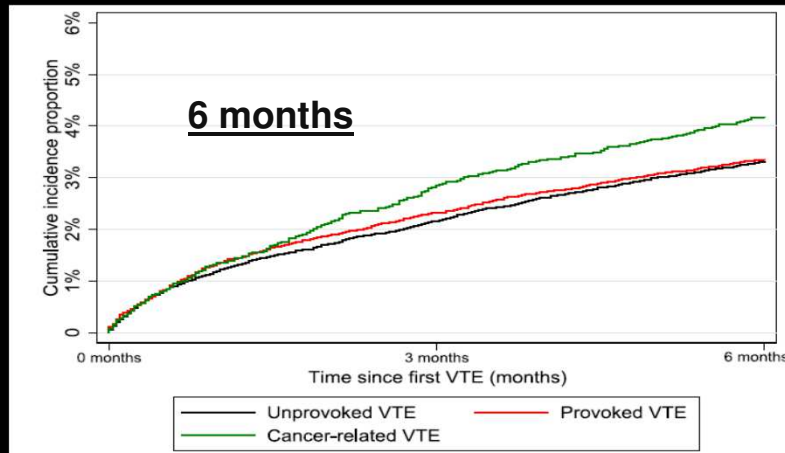


(JACC 2020; 76: 2142-2154)

## OPTIMAL DURATION OF ANTICOAGULATION:

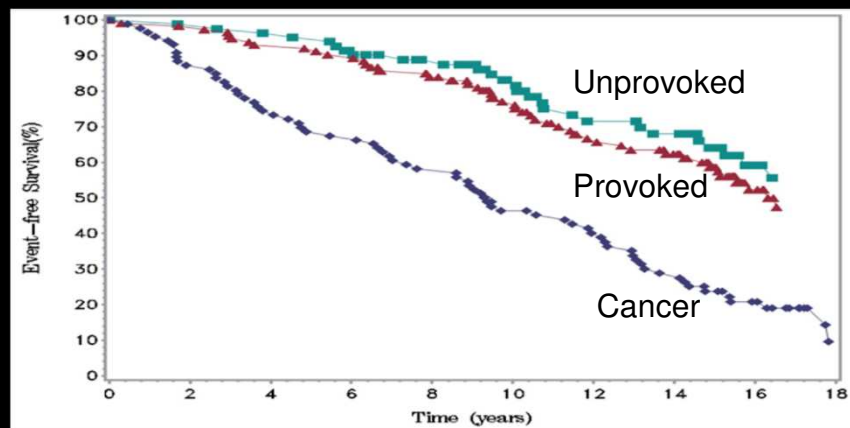
Requiem or double-down on  
“Provoked” versus  
“Unprovoked” VTE?

## Risk of Recurrent VTE: Danish Cohort Study (N=73,993) 6 Months



(Albertsen IE. Am J Med 2018; 131: 1067-1074)

## VTE Subtype: Event-Free Survival Framingham Heart Study (N=9,754)



(Puurunen MK. Thromb Res 2016; 145: 27-33)



## **Unprovoked VTE: Risk of Recurrence after Discontinuing Anticoagulation (N=7,515)**

<b><u>Years after D/C Anticoagulation</u></b>	<b><u>% Recurrence</u></b>
<b>1</b>	<b>10%</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>16%</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>25%</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>36%</b>

(Khan F. BMJ 2019;366:l4363 | doi: 10.1136/bmj.l4363 )

## **ASH 2020 VTE Guidelines re: Duration of Anticoagulation**

“Patients with DVT and/or PE provoked by a transient risk factor typically do not require antithrombotic therapy after completion of primary treatment.”



## **ESC PE Guidelines**

**“Terminology such as ‘provoked’ vs. ‘unprovoked’ PE/ VTE is no longer supported by the Guidelines, as it is potentially misleading and not helpful for decision-making regarding the duration of anticoagulation.”**

(ESC PE Guidelines. European Heart Journal 2020; 41: 543-603)

**New York Cardiovascular  
Symposium** DECEMBER 11 – 12, 2021



AMERICAN  
COLLEGE of  
CARDIOLOGY

JOIN THE CONVERSATION:  
**#NYCVS**

## **ESC: Anticoagulation Duration**

“Extended oral anticoagulation of indefinite duration should be considered for patients with a first episode of PE and:

- 1) No identifiable risk factor
- 2) A persistent risk factor
- 3) A minor transient or reversible risk factor”

(ESC PE Guidelines. European Heart Journal 2020; 41: 543-603)

**New York Cardiovascular  
Symposium** DECEMBER 11 – 12, 2021



AMERICAN  
COLLEGE of  
CARDIOLOGY

JOIN THE CONVERSATION:  
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## ESC PE Guidelines: Risk of Recurrence

Risk of Recurrence	Risk Factors for Index VTE	Examples
Low (<3%/ year)	Transient, reversible factors; >10-fold increased risk of index VTE	Major surgery Major trauma
Intermediate (3% to 8%/ year)	Transient, reversible factors; ≤10-fold increased risk of index VTE	Minor surgery Hospitalized with acute medical illness Pregnancy/ estrogens Long-haul flight
	Persistent risk factors	IBD; Autoimmune Disease
	No identifiable risk factor	
High (>8%/ year)		Active cancer Antiphospholipid syndrome

(ESC PE Guidelines. European Heart Journal 2020; 41: 543-603)

**New York Cardiovascular Symposium**  
DECEMBER 11 – 12, 2021



AMERICAN  
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**VTE-PREDICT** to predict risks of recurrent VTE, bleeding and individual benefits, and harms of extended anticoagulation

### Development

Competing risk-adjusted models for



Recurrent VTE



Clinically relevant bleeding

were derived in combined individual patient data (n = 15,141)



Bleeding Risk Study, Hokusai-VTE, RE-MEDY,  
RE-SONATE, PREFER in VTE Registry

### Key features of the VTE-PREDICT risk score

- Suitable for all adult patients with VTE without active cancer for whom the decision to stop or continue anticoagulation is yet to be made
- Uses 14 simple, readily available patient characteristics
- Available worldwide through <https://vtepredict.com>

### Validation

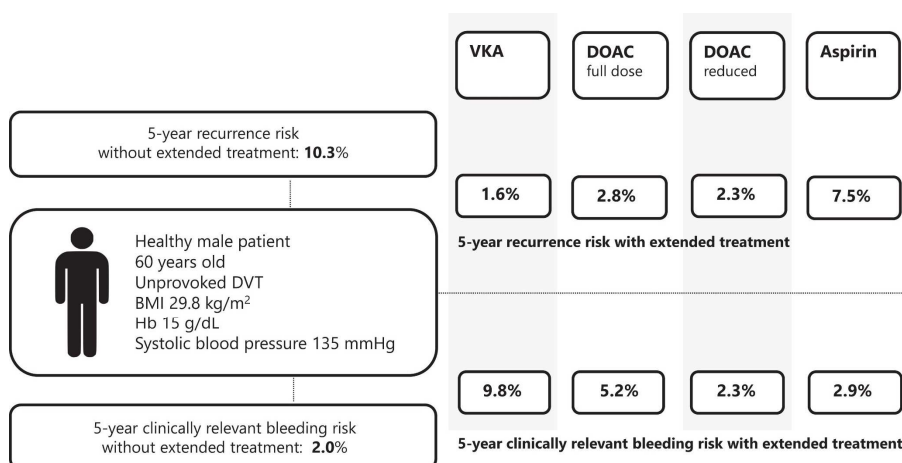
External validation (n = 59,257) showed agreement between predicted and observed risks up to 5 years



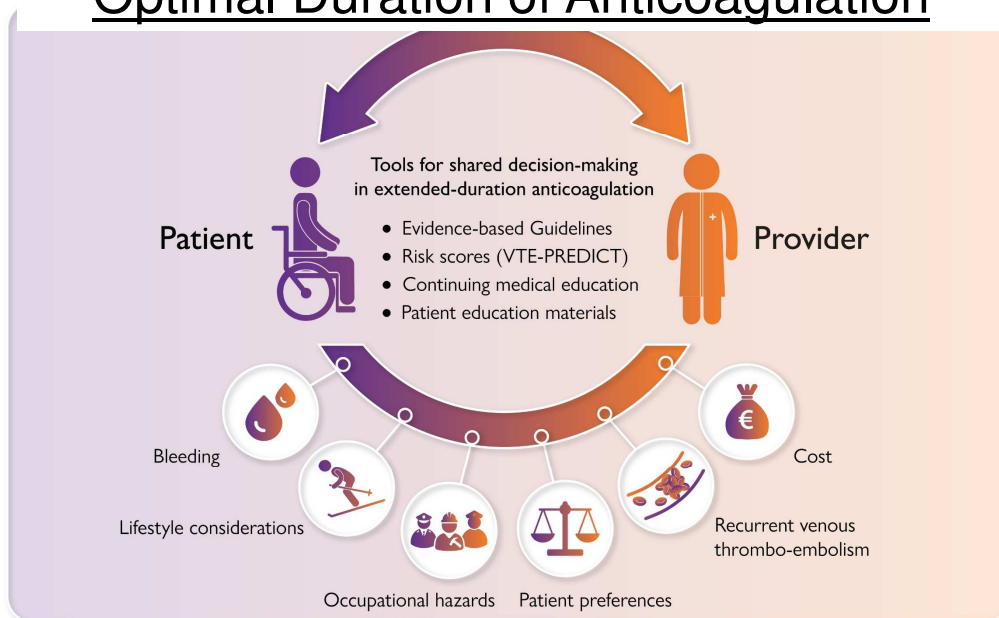
Danish VTE Cohort, EINSTEIN-CHOICE,  
GARFIELD-VTE, Tromsø study, MEGA study

*Eur Heart J*, Volume 44, Issue 14, 7 April 2023, Pages 1245–1247

## Example of VTE-Predict



## Optimal Duration of Anticoagulation



**OPTIMAL DURATION OF**  
**ANTICOAGULATION:**

**Who Do You Side with???**

**1) American Society of Hematology**

**2) European Society of Cardiology**

**Please Vote**

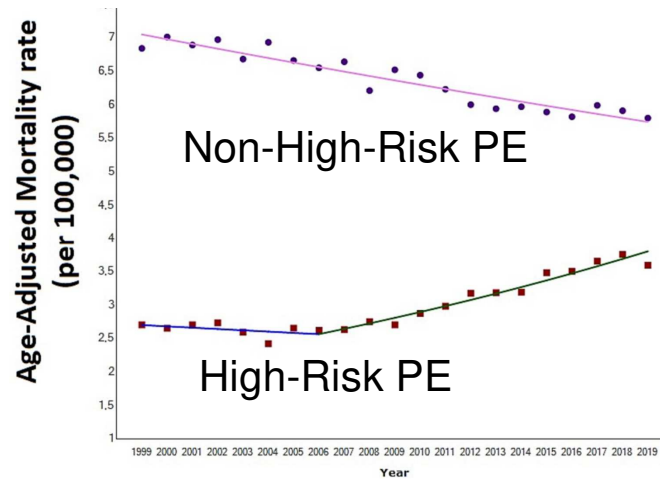
# Advanced PE Management

## Our Tool Kit To Treat PE When Anticoagulation Alone Does Not Suffice

### Early Mortality Risk

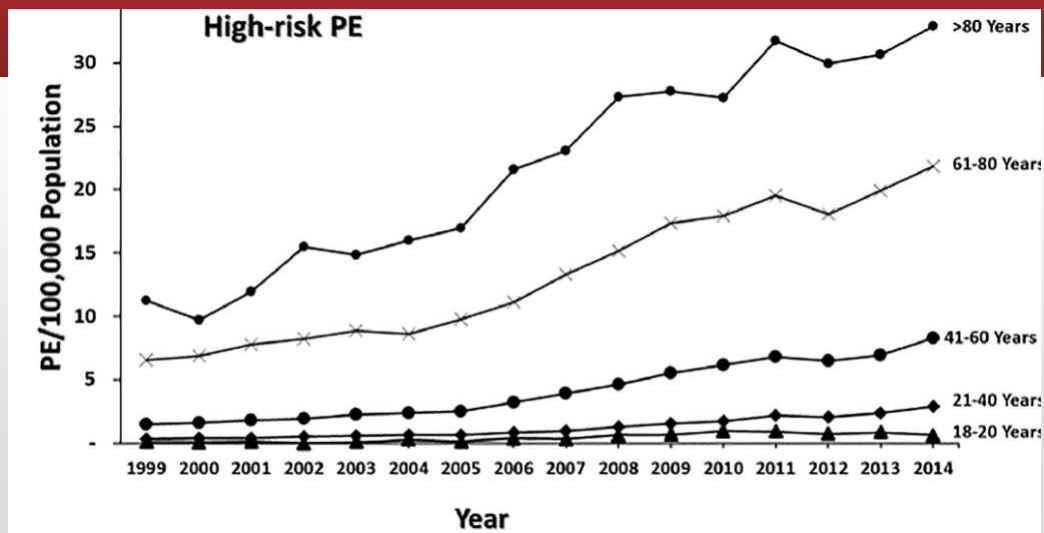
High		Hemodynamic Instability
Intermediate	Intermediate-High	RV Dysfunction <b>and</b> Troponin
	Intermediate-Low	RV Dysfunction <b>or</b> Troponin
Low		None and absence of clinical signs for severe PE

## Time Trends in PE Mortality: Non-High Risk vs High-Risk PE



Thrombosis Research, 2023-08-01, Volume 228, Pages 72-80

## High-Risk PE: Age



(Am J Med 2021; 134: 621-625)

## Adjunctive Therapy for Massive PE

- Ensure excellent oxygenation
- Do not volume load the fragile RV with more than 500 ml to raise the BP
- Low threshold to begin pressors
  - 1) Norepinephrine
  - 2) Dobutamine

### Background

- Hemodynamically unstable PE has an 8-fold higher mortality rate than stable PE.
- In patients with hemodynamically unstable PE, systemic thrombolysis decreases the death rate by 35-50%, but it causes a 2-3% rate of intracranial hemorrhage.
- In 1990, the FDA approved systemic TPA to treat massive PE in a dose of 100 mg as a continuous infusion over 2 hours.

## Options for Reperfusion

- Systemic (via peripheral vein) thrombolysis
- Catheter-directed thrombolysis
- Ultrasound-facilitated catheter-directed thrombolysis
- Mechanical catheter thrombectomy (no thrombolysis)
- Surgical pulmonary embolectomy

## AHA: Factors Favoring PE Reperfusion Rx

- Lack of improvement/ deterioration
- Clinical distress
- Clot-in-transit
- Severe/ persistent RV strain
- Low cardiac output
- Persistent hypoxia

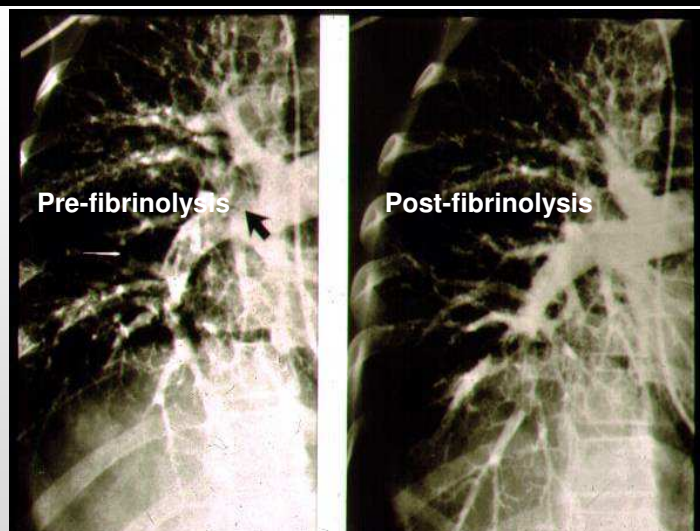
(Circulation 2019; epubl October 4)



## When Should We Initiate Systemic Thrombolysis?

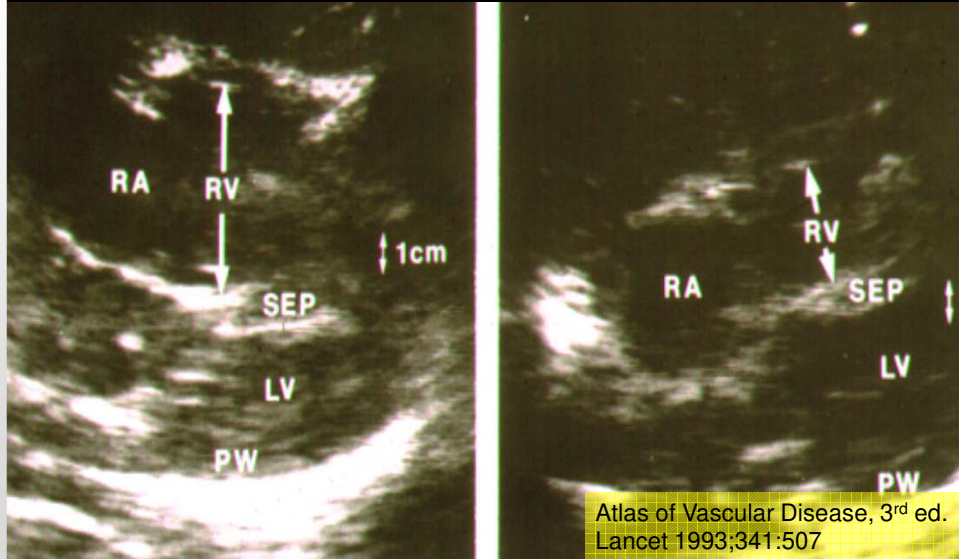
- 1) The patient is too critically ill to transfer
- 2) You're moonlighting as the only doctor on duty in the hospital
- 3) The patient appears young and healthy except for the PE
- 4) It's not possible to mobilize IR, cardiology, or cardiac surgeon in a timely way

### **THROMBOLYSIS IN SUBMASSIVE PE: RAPID ANGIOGRAPHIC IMPROVEMENT**

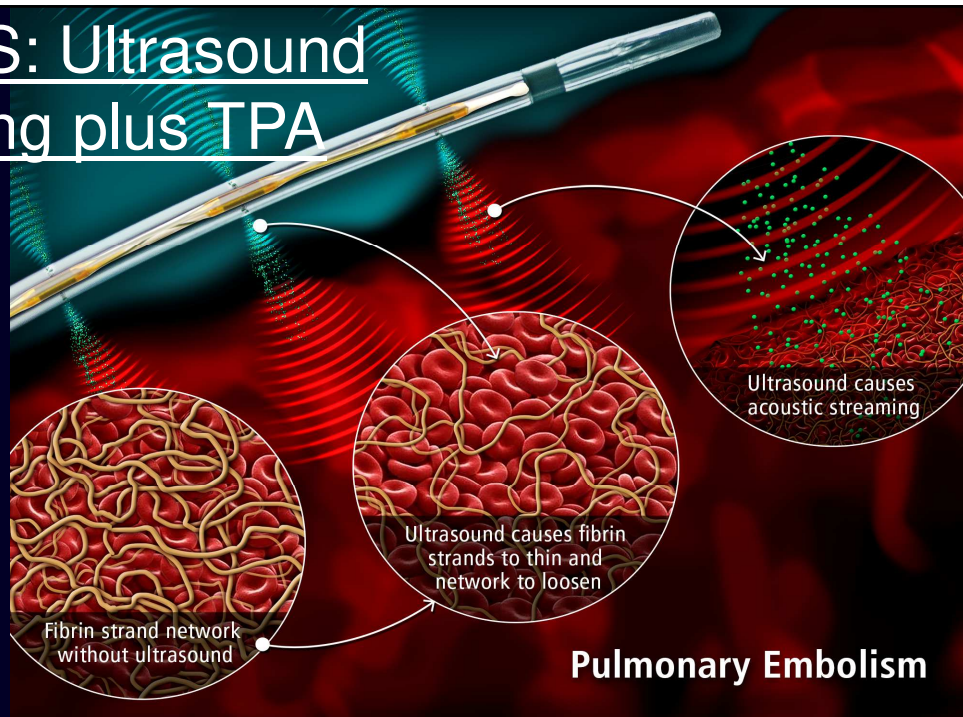


Atlas of Vascular Disease, 3<sup>rd</sup> ed.

## THROMBOLYSIS IN SUBMASSIVE PE: RAPID RV AND ECHOCARDIOGRAPHIC IMPROVEMENT



## EKOS: Ultrasound Pulsing plus TPA



## Simultaneous Publication In *EuroIntervention*

PERIPHERAL INTERVENTIONS  
CLINICAL RESEARCH

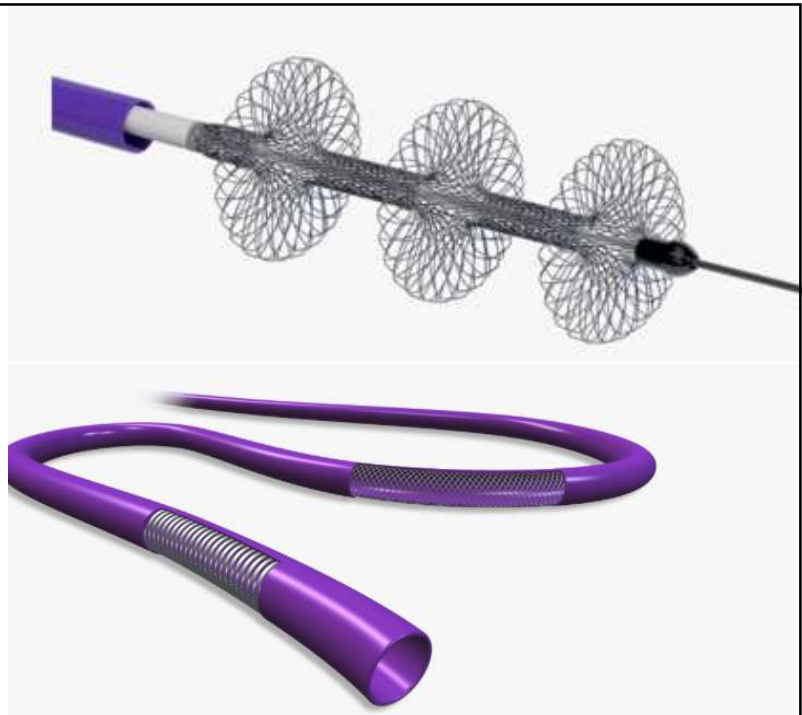
■ EuroIntervention 2022;17:1-1 published online

### Acute Outcomes for the Full US Cohort of the FLASH Mechanical Thrombectomy Registry in Pulmonary Embolism

Catalin Toma<sup>1\*</sup>, MD; Wissam A. Jaber<sup>2</sup>, MD; Mitchell D. Weinberg<sup>3</sup>, MD, MBA; Matthew C. Bunte<sup>4</sup>, MD, MS; Sameer Khandhar<sup>5</sup>, MD; Brian Stegman<sup>6</sup>, MD; Sreedevi Gondi<sup>7</sup>, MD; Jeffrey Chambers<sup>8</sup>, MD; Rohit Amin<sup>9</sup>, MD; Daniel A. Leung<sup>10</sup>, MD; Herman Kado<sup>11</sup>, MD; Michael A. Brown<sup>12</sup>, MD; Michael G. Sarosi<sup>13</sup>, MD; Ambarish P. Bhat<sup>14</sup>, MD; Jordan Castle<sup>15</sup>, MD; Michael Savin<sup>16</sup>, MD; Gary Siskin<sup>17</sup>, MD; Michael Rosenberg<sup>18</sup>, MD; Christina Fanola<sup>19</sup>, MD, MSc; James M. Horowitz<sup>20</sup>, MD; Jeffrey S. Pollak<sup>21</sup>, MD, for the FLASH Investigators



FlowTrievery:  
20F—No TPA





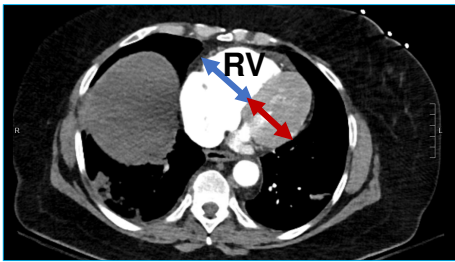
## **BWH FlowTrieve Pulmonary Embolectomy** **#1—Drs. Bergmark and Shah**



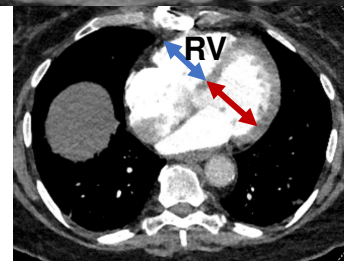
## **SURGICAL EMBOLECTOMY AT** **BWH: SURGEON'S CELL PHONE**



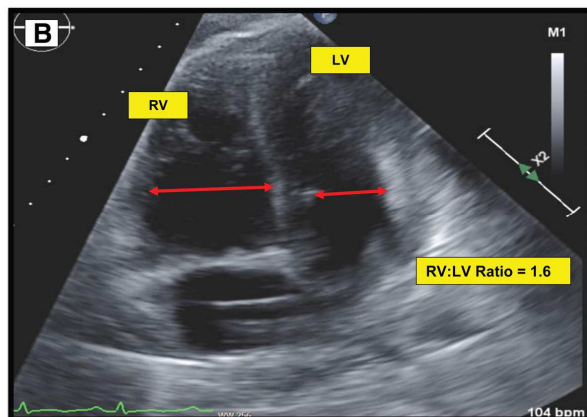
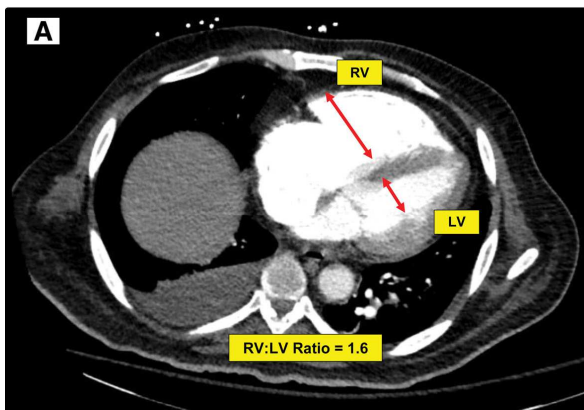
July 23, 2020



September 1, 2020

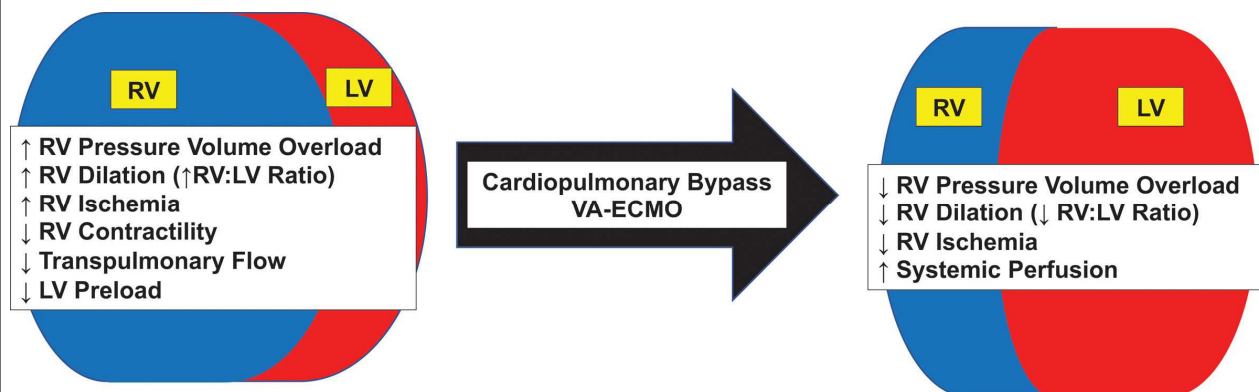


## Acute RV Dilation with PE: CT and TTE



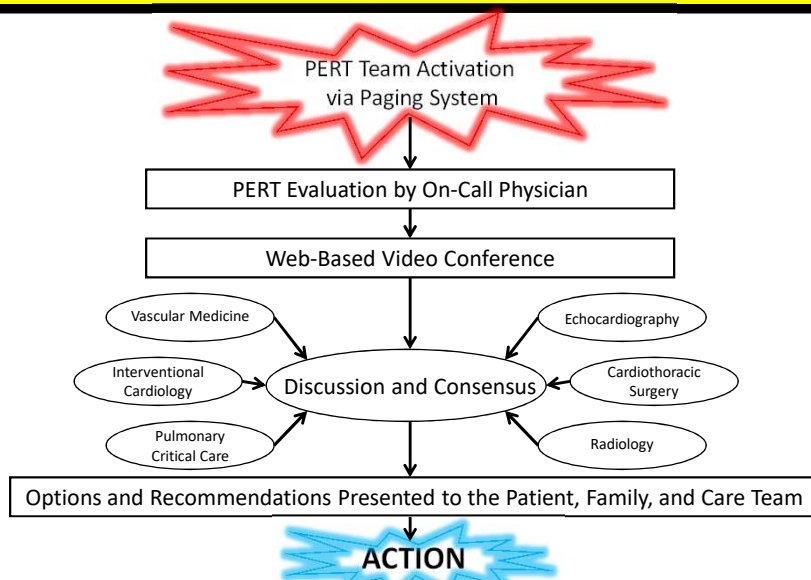
Circulation 2023; Jan 23. 147: e628–e647. AHA Scientific Statement

## Beneficial Effects of CPB and VA-ECMO on Biventricular Function



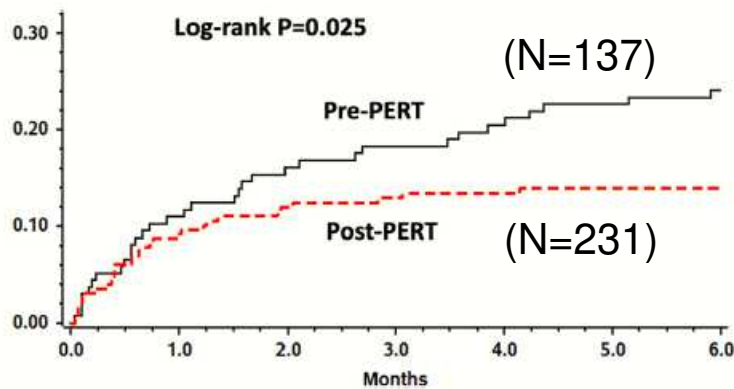
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## PE RESPONSE TEAM (PERT)



(Dudzinski D, Piazza G. Circulation 2016; 133: 98-103)

## Effect of a PERT on Patient Mortality



(Wright C. Am J Cardiol 2021; 161: 102-107)

## Take Home Points

- Prevent or treat known triggers of VTE
- DOACs: More convenient and fewer bleeding complications than warfarin
- Optimal duration of anticoagulation:  
try VTE-PREDICT
- Advanced therapy:  
Systemic lysis  
Catheter-based therapy—with or without TPA  
Surgical embolectomy, ECMO

## References

- ESC Guidelines for acute pulmonary embolism. Eur Heart J 2020; 41: 543-603
- Piazza G. Registry of Thromboembolic Complications in patients with COVID-19. JACC 2020; 76: 2060-2072
- Chopard R. Lower Extremity VTE. JAMA 2020; 324: 1765-1776
- Goldhaber SZ. ECMO and Surgical Embolectomy. JACC 2020; 76: 912-915