

# Venous Thromboembolism



- Approximately 75-80% of pulmonary embolisms are caused by DVT
- Virchow’s triad is present in pregnancy and postpartum and include hypercoagulability, stasis, and endothelial damage

<p><b>Questions to ask</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Do you have any history of blood clots?</li> <li>• Do you have a history of cardiac conditions?</li> <li>• Do you take blood thinners?</li> <li>• Do you use birth control pills?</li> </ul>
<p><b>Management</b></p>	<p><b>Unstable:</b> stabilize or transfer to a venue capable of intervention.</p> <p><b>Stable:</b> evaluation can proceed.</p> <p><b>Signs and Symptoms:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Localized swelling, pain, and/or erythema</li> <li>• Shortness of breath</li> <li>• Chest pain that worsens with deep inhalation</li> <li>• Hemoptysis</li> <li>• Palpitations</li> <li>• Tachycardia</li> <li>• Low O2 saturation (&lt;92%)</li> </ul> <p><b>Tests to evaluate:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Venous duplex ultrasound of the affected area or CT angiogram</li> <li>• CBC</li> <li>• Creatinine</li> <li>• PT/PTT/INR</li> <li>• Fibrinogen</li> </ul> <p><b>Treatment:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LMW heparin – Enoxaparin, Dalteparin</li> <li>• IV / Subcutaneous Heparin per protocol</li> </ul> <p><b>Complications</b></p> <p>New-onset thrombocytopenia may be caused by Heparin Induced Cytopenia (HIT). Workup includes laboratory assessment for Heparin PF4 Antibody testing, trending platelets, and monitoring for signs of thrombosis and bleeding. Discontinue heparin and consider non-heparin anticoagulant. Consider mechanical prophylaxis on non-affected lower extremities.</p>
<p><b>Consult</b></p>	<p><b>If perinatal/postpartum thromboembolism is suspected, consult an OB/GYN or call the MIST Consultation Line at 800-UAB-MIST (800-822-6478)</b></p>

For more information or resources, please visit [ALPQC.ORG](http://ALPQC.ORG).

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