

DEEP VEIN THROMBOSIS



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DEEP VEIN THROMBOSIS

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- CLOT FORMATION
- RISK FACTORS
- SIGNS & SYMPTOMS
- DIAGNOSIS
- TREATMENT



D.V.T. DEFINED

- D.V.T. Is a condition in which a blood clot is formed inside a deep vein, commonly located in the thigh or calf.
- D.V.T.'s occur when the clot either partially or fully occludes the blood flow within the vein.



WHY DO CLOTS FORM

- To heal the body after an injury, as part of the body's natural mechanisms to stem bleeding by sealing blood vessels.



CLOT FORMATION

- Following an injury disc-shaped platelets attach themselves to the wound.
- Signals are sent to attract further platelets, this is known as Aggregation.



CLOT FORMATION

- Proteins known as clotting factors bond the platelets together to form the clot
- The clotting factors releases chemicals which signals to the body the production of Fibrin.
- Fibrin is a thread like protein that weaves through and stabilises the clot.



RISK FACTORS

- Injury
- Immobility or Prolonged Sitting
- Surgery
- Clotting Disorders
- Previous history of D.V.T. or P.E.
- Obesity
- Smoking
- Pregnancy
- Oral Contraceptive or Hormone replacement



SIGN & SYMPTOMS

- Calf Pain
- Tenderness
- Swelling
- Discolouration of the affected limb
- Skin is warm to touch
- BE AWARE some D.V.T's are 'Silent' and may present with minimal symptoms.



DIAGNOSIS

- Venography
- Ultra-Sound
- Plethysmography

- PE can be confirmed from Arterial Blood Gases, Chest x-ray, ECG, or ventilation perfusion (V/Q) scan.



TREATMENT

- **Anti-Coagulants**
- **Aspirin**
- **Heparin / WAFARIN**
- **Streptokinase**

Prevention

- **Early Mobilisation**
- **Pre-op Prophylaxis for at risk**