Audit on completion of VTE risk assessment forms: *a simple method to prevent DVT and other unwanted complications*

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Introduction

- **Hospital acquired venous thromboembolism (VTE) is a term for all VTE that occurs in a hospital stay or within 90 days of admission.**
- **National Institute of Health and Care Excellence (NICE) guidelines recommend that all medical patients should be assessed to identify the risk of VTE and bleeding using a risk assessment tool[1]**
- **VTE prophylaxis is an essential part of preventive medicine to reduce morbidity and mortality.**
- **An audit was performed in a medical department to assess the number of patients who had the local VTE assessment form completed.**

Aims

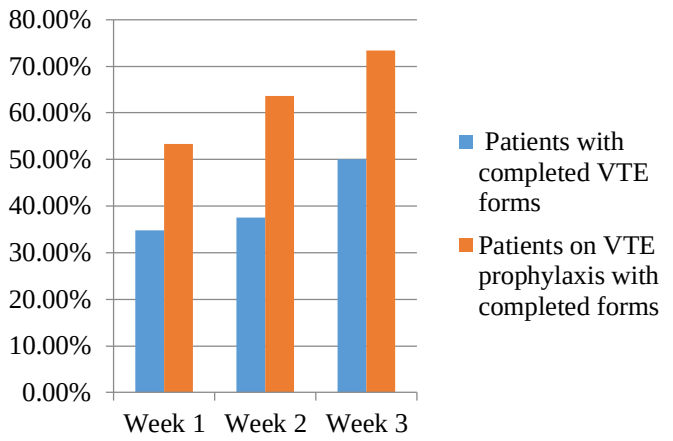
- **To assess the number of patients who had the local VTE assessment form completed.**
- **The standard was set that all patients should have VTE forms completed as per NICE guidelines.**

Methods

1. **Data was collected retrospectively three times over a period of two weeks.**
2. **VTE forms in all patients' notes were checked and crossed checked with drug charts to ensure prophylaxis was prescribed.**
3. **All patients in the ward were included in each cycle of data collection.**
4. **Patient numbers ranged from 22-24.**
5. **The data was complied on an Excel spreadsheet and later formatted on PowerPoint.**
6. **Interventions were made by two methods;**

- **By attaching copies of VTE forms to all elective and emergency admission booklets to ensure it was not overseen.**
- **By giving regular verbal reminders to the junior doctors on the ward during handover and huddles.**

Results



1. **Results showed that percentage of VTE forms completed for all patients increased from 34.79% to 50%.**
2. **The percentage of patients requiring prophylaxis with VTE forms completed increased from 53/3% to 73.3%.**

Conclusions

- **Significant improvement was noted in the compliance of VTE forms completed with interventions**
- **It was noted that patients in which VTE prophylaxis was indicated had a higher form completion rates.**
- **There is still room for improvement, and it is noteworthy that simple measures can improve patient safety and prevent complications.**

References: 1. National Institute for Health and Care Excellence; Venous thromboembolism in over 16s; Reducing the risk of hospital-acquired deep vein thrombosis or pulmonary embolism (NICE guideline NG89 Volume 1 – March 2018)