



# Clinical Practice Guidelines

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# Clinical Practice Guidelines

statements that include **recommendations** intended to **optimize patient care** that are informed by a **systematic review of evidence** and an **assessment of the benefits and harms of alternative care options....** and provide ratings of both the **quality of evidence** and the **strength of the recommendations**

# New Zealand Guidelines Group



## Clinical Practice Guideline



National Heart, Lung,  
and Blood Institute

**NICE** National Institute for  
Health and Care Excellence

## Ärztliches Zentrum für Qualität in der Medizin

Gemeinsame Einrichtung von Bundesärztekammer (BÄK)  
und Kassenärztlicher Bundesvereinigung (KBV)



1945-49

20

1960-74

35

The rise and  
rise of clinical  
practice  
guidelines

2000

+

Budgetary  
control

Government  
funding

Complexity of  
medical care

The rise and  
rise of clinical  
practice  
guidelines

Standardisation

Public  
accountability

Comparison of  
outcomes

*Art*

Science





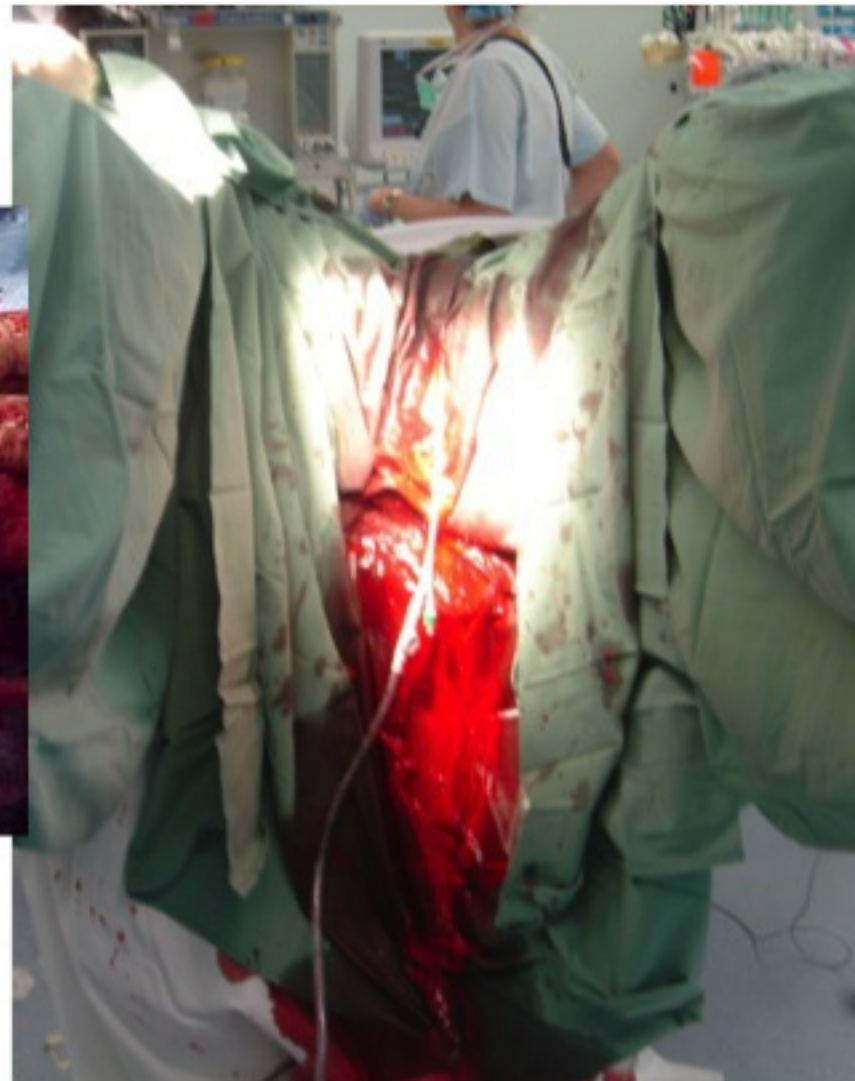
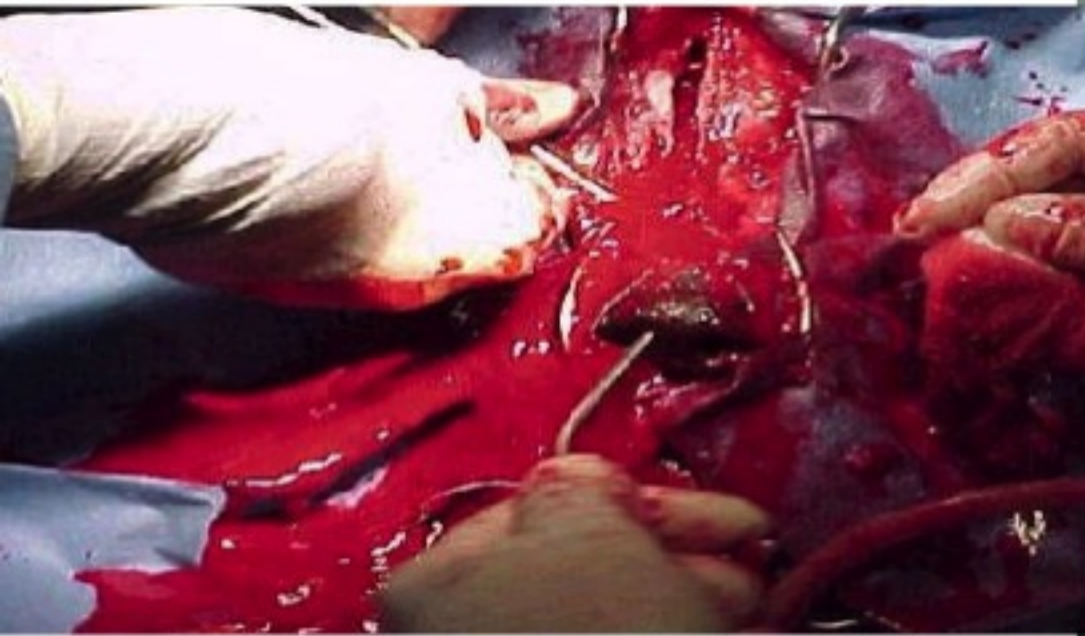
Grade of Recommendation	Benefit vs Risk and Burdens	Methodologic Strength of Supporting Evidence	Implications
Strong recommendation, high-quality evidence (1A)	Benefits clearly outweigh risk and burdens or vice versa.	Consistent evidence from randomized controlled trials without important limitations or exceptionally strong evidence from observational studies.	Recommendation can apply to most patients in most circumstances. Further research is very unlikely to change our confidence in the estimate of effect.
Strong recommendation, moderate-quality evidence (1B)	Benefits clearly outweigh risk and burdens or vice versa.	Evidence from randomized controlled trials with important limitations (inconsistent results, methodologic flaws, indirect or imprecise) or very strong evidence from observational studies.	Recommendation can apply to most patients in most circumstances. Higher-quality research may well have an important impact on our confidence in the estimate of effect and may change the estimate.
Strong recommendation, low- or very-low-quality evidence (1C)	Benefits clearly outweigh risk and burdens or vice versa.	Evidence for at least one critical outcome from observational studies, case series, or randomized controlled trials, with serious flaws or indirect evidence.	Recommendation can apply to most patients in many circumstances. Higher-quality research is likely to have an important impact on our confidence in the estimate of effect and may well change the estimate.
Weak recommendation, high-quality evidence (2A)	Benefits closely balanced with risks and burden.	Consistent evidence from randomized controlled trials without important limitations or exceptionally strong evidence from observational studies.	The best action may differ depending on circumstances or patient or societal values. Further research is very unlikely to change our confidence in the estimate of effect.
Weak recommendation, moderate-quality evidence (2B)	Benefits closely balanced with risks and burden.	Evidence from randomized controlled trials with important limitations (inconsistent results, methodologic flaws, indirect or imprecise) or very strong evidence from observational studies.	Best action may differ depending on circumstances or patient or societal values. Higher-quality research may well have an important impact on our confidence in the estimate of effect and may change the estimate.
Weak recommendation, low- or very-low-quality evidence (2C)	Uncertainty in the estimates of benefits, risks, and burden; benefits, risk, and burden may be closely balanced.	Evidence for at least one critical outcome from observational studies, case series, or randomized controlled trials, with serious flaws or indirect evidence.	Other alternatives may be equally reasonable. Higher-quality research is likely to have an important impact on our confidence in the estimate of effect and may well change the estimate.















*Opinion*

## Recommendations for the diagnosis and treatment of deep venous thrombosis and pulmonary embolism in pregnancy and the postpartum period

Claire McLINTOCK,<sup>1</sup> Tim BRIGHTON,<sup>2</sup> Sanjeev CHUNILAL,<sup>3</sup> Gus DEKKER,<sup>4,5</sup>  
Nolan McDONNELL,<sup>6</sup> Simon McRAE,<sup>7</sup> Peter MULLER,<sup>8</sup> Huyen TRAN,<sup>9,10,11</sup>  
Barry N. J. WALTERS<sup>12</sup> and Laura YOUNG<sup>13,14</sup>

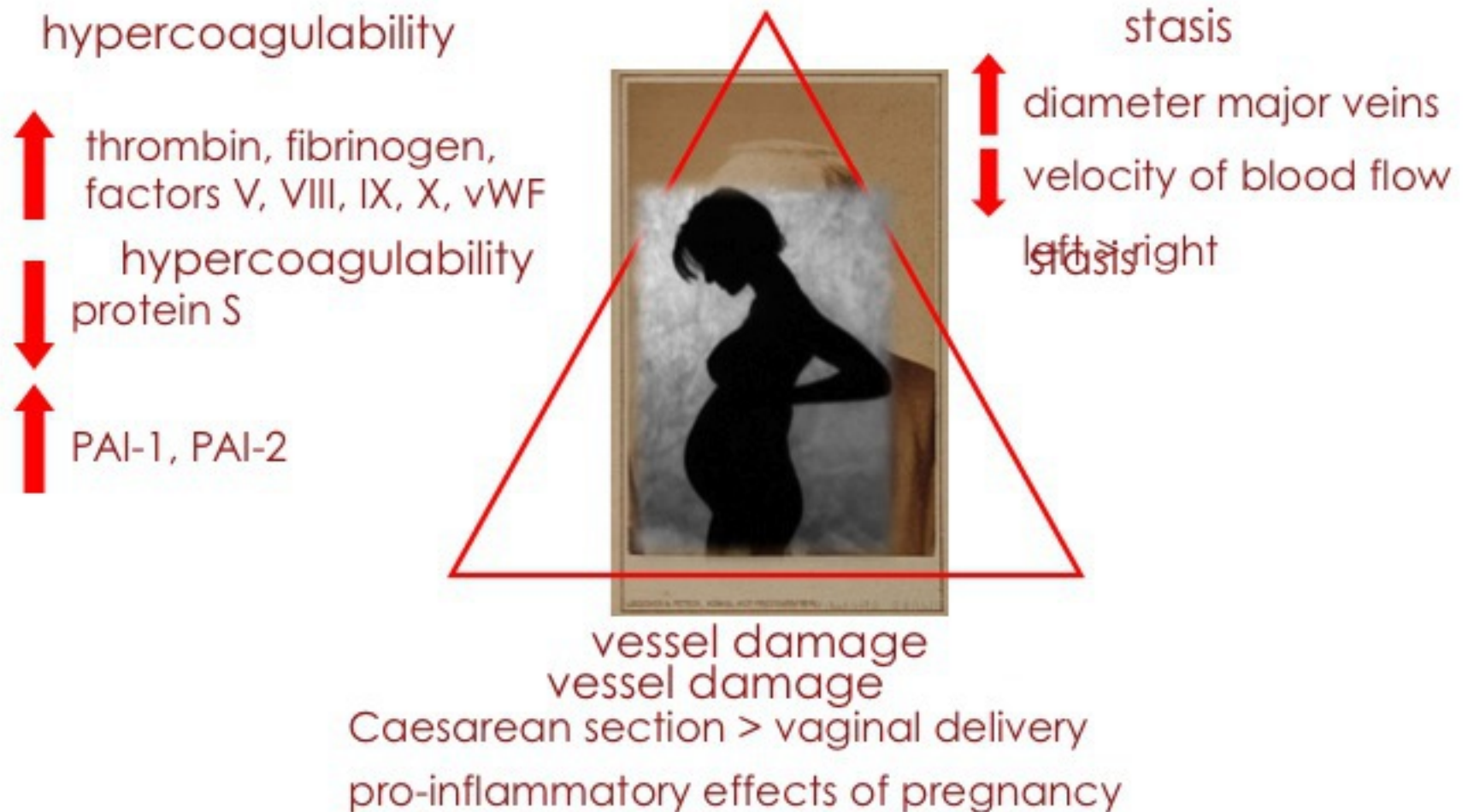
*Opinion*

## Recommendations for the prevention of pregnancy-associated venous thromboembolism

Claire McLINTOCK,<sup>1</sup> Tim BRIGHTON,<sup>2</sup> Sanjeev CHUNILAL,<sup>3</sup> Gus DEKKER,<sup>4,5</sup>  
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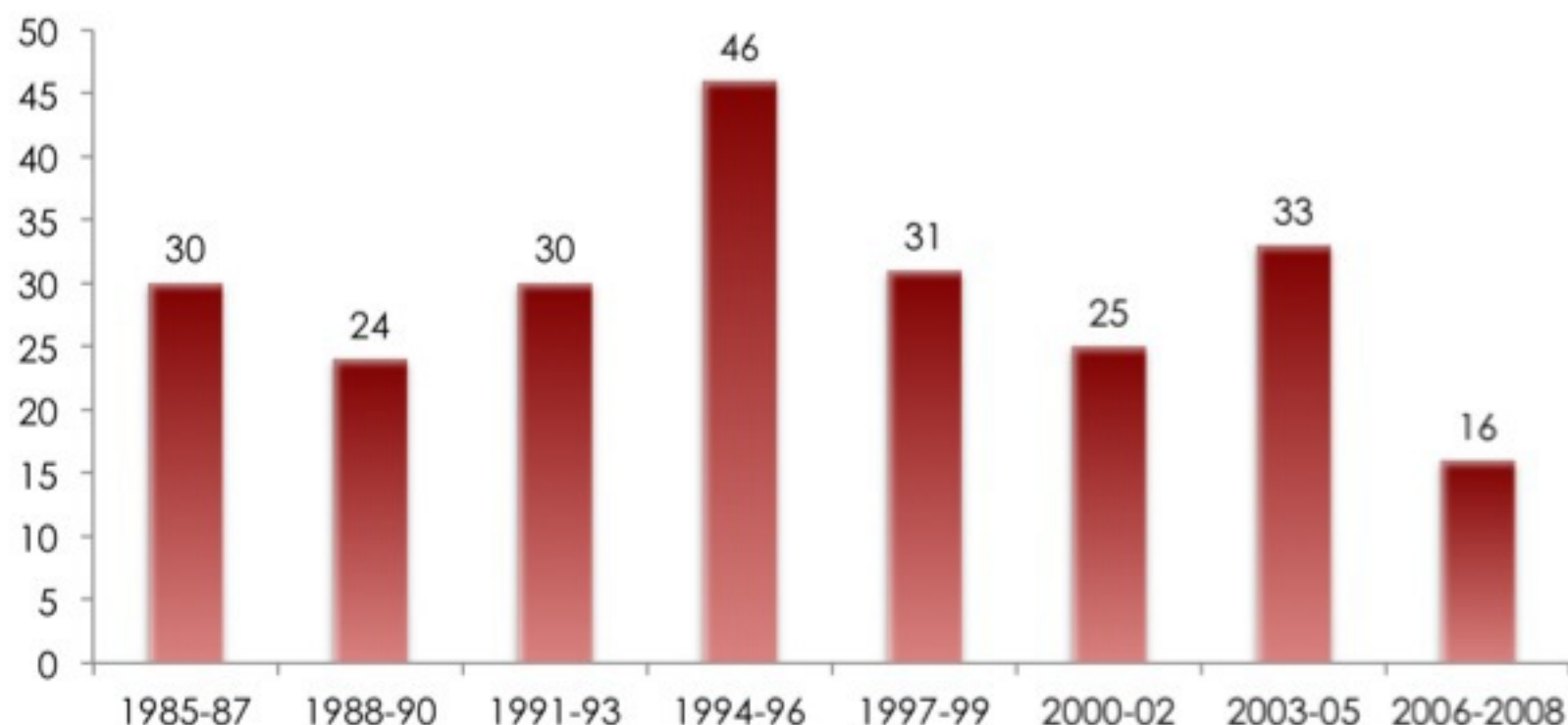
# Virchow's Triad







# Maternal Mortality Pulmonary Embolism



1-2 in 100 000 pregnancies

# + Mortality

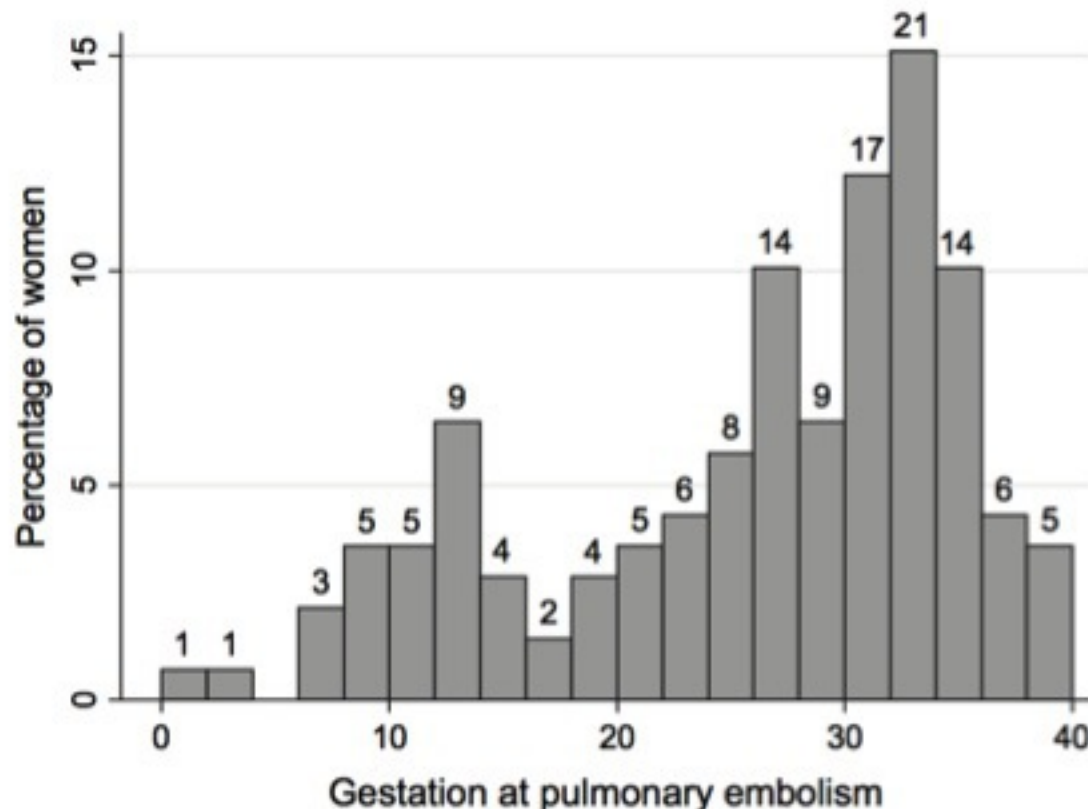


- 0.4-1.6/100,000 deliveries – common direct cause of maternal death
- Case fatality rate (PE) **2.4-3.5%**
- **NZ – 0.5/100,000** deliveries last 3 years
  - (2.85% of all deaths)
- Australia – 0.65/100,000 deliveries (2003-5)
  - (7.7% of all deaths)





# UK Obstetric Surveillance System: antenatal pulmonary embolism



143 antenatal PE  
1/ 7700 maternities

5 deaths  
Case fatality 3.5%

## + Composition



- Haematologist ( 3\* NZ 3 Australia)
- Obstetric Physician (2\*)
- Neonatologist (1)
- Anaesthetist (1)
- Obstetrician (2)



# + Consensus process

## 1<sup>st</sup> meeting

- Presentation of background data
- 1<sup>st</sup> draft

## 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting

- Review of sections
- 2<sup>nd</sup> draft

## Recommendations compiled

- Voting 1) agree 2) disagree
- Consensus levels: L1 – 10/10 agree; L2 -  $\geq 8/10$  agree; L3 – no consensus
- Further drafts.....

Risk factor	Adjusted OR
<b>Prior VTE</b>	<b>24.8</b>
Immobility	7.7-10.1
BMI>30	1.7-5.3
Active medical illness	2.1-8.7
Preeclampsia	3.0-5.8
<b>Family history VTE</b>	<b>2.9-4.1</b>
Assisted reproductive technology	2.6-4.3
Hyperemesis	2.5
Varicose veins	2.4
Multiple pregnancy	1.6-4.2
Smoking	1.7-3.4
Multiparity >2	1.6-2.9
Age >35	1.4-1.7

# Postpartum Risk Factors



Risk factor	OR
Elective CS	1.3-2.7
Emergency CS	2.7-4.0
Placental abruption	2.5-16.6
Postpartum infection	4.1-20.2
Postpartum haemorrhage > 1000 mL	1.3-12.0
Red cell transfusion <sup>2</sup>	3.9
Plasma product transfusion <sup>2</sup>	8.2



Pregnancy-  
associated VTE

1 in 1000-1500



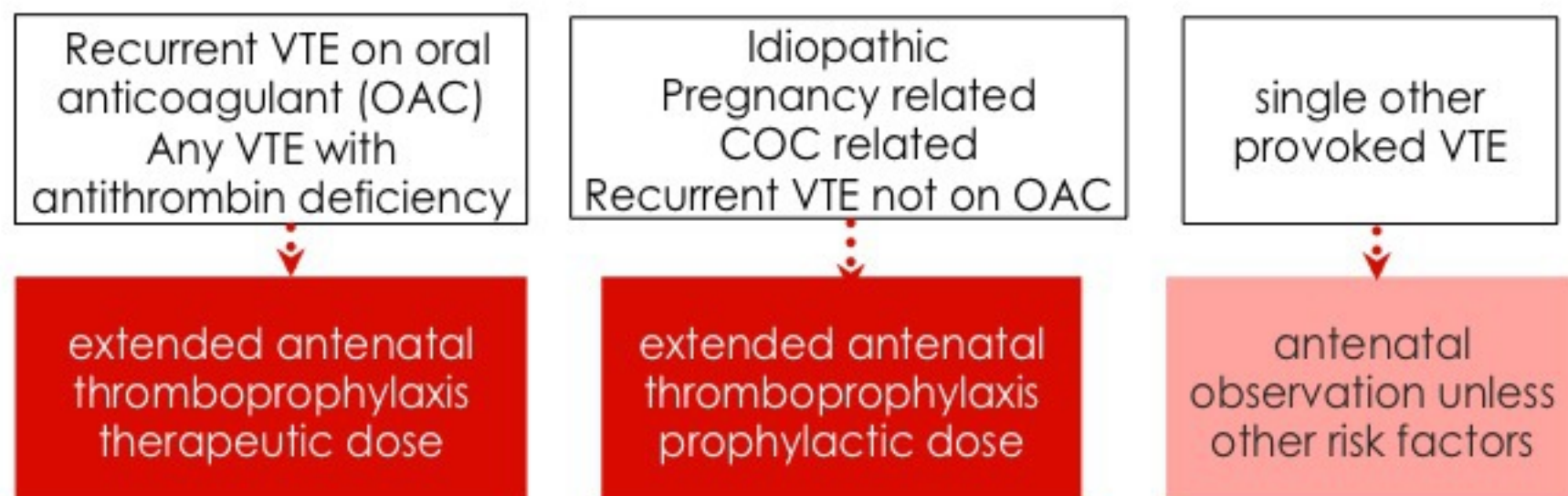


# Interpretation of Risk



Risk factor	Adjusted OR	Estimated absolute risk
		Background risk 1 in 1000
<b>Prior VTE</b>	<b>24.8</b>	<b>1 in 40</b>
Immobility	7.7-10.1	1 in 125
Preeclampsia	3.0-5.8	1 in 330
Family history VTE	2.9-4.1	1 in 330
Hyperemesis	2.5	1 in 400
<b>Elective CS</b>	<b>1.3-2.7</b>	<b>1 in 330</b>
<b>Emergency CS</b>	<b>2.7-4.0</b>	<b>1 in 250</b>
Age >35	1.4-1.7	1 in 700

## Personal history VTE

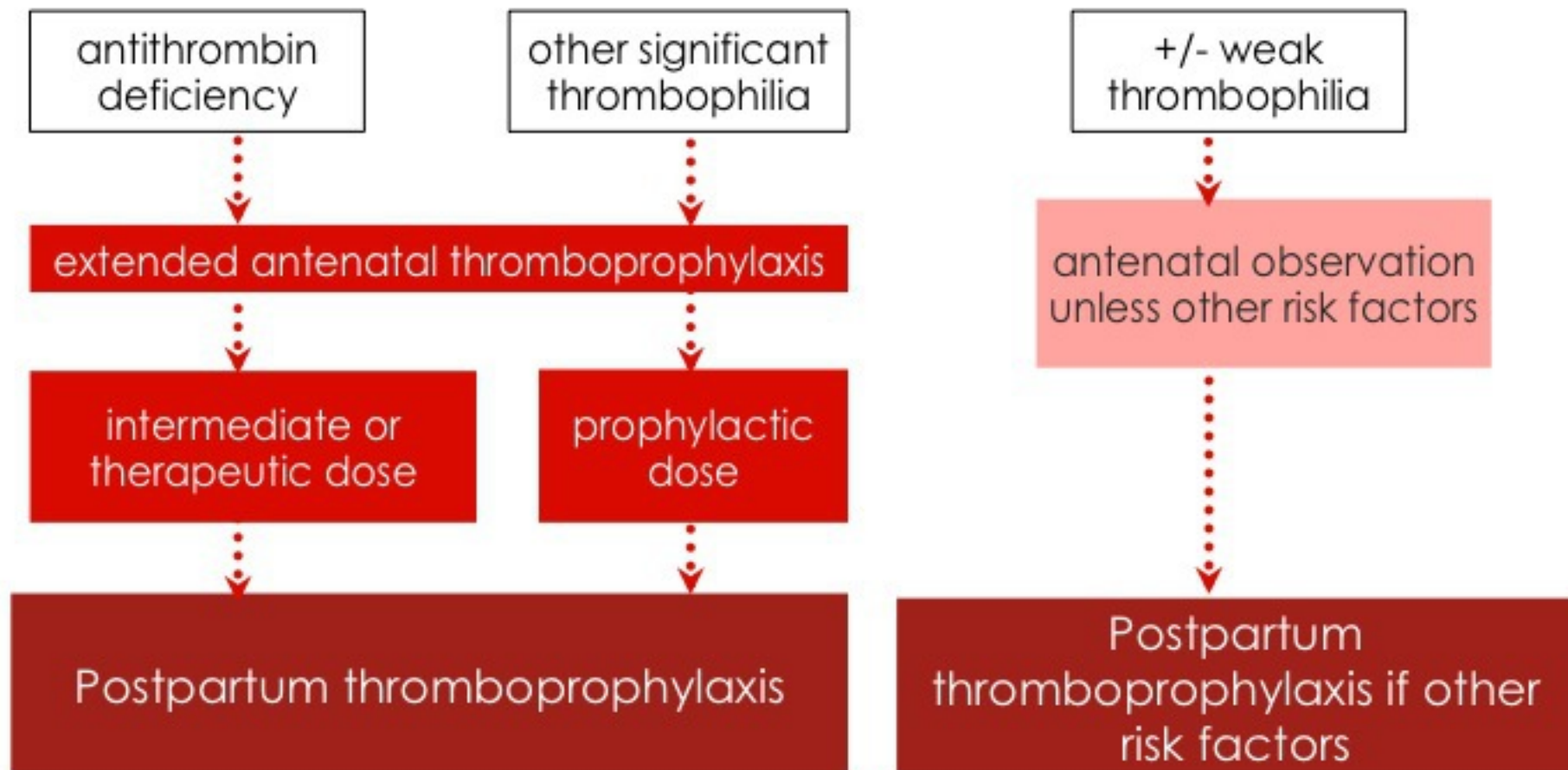


Postpartum thromboprophylaxis for all women

# Family History of VTE, Thrombophilia & Risk of PA-VTE

Thrombophilia	Risk of PA-VTE weighted mean; range (%)
Antithrombin deficiency	29.1% (3-37)
Protein C deficiency	12.5% (1.7-16.1)
Protein S deficiency	9.5% (6.6-13.6)
FVL homozygous	11.1% (4.2-15.8)
PT20210 homozygous	<i>no family studies</i>
Compound heterozygote PT20210/FVL	8.8% (7.1-17.8)
PT20210 heterozygote	1-2.8%
FVL heterozygote	1.5-3.9%

## Family history VTE, no personal history







VTE post trauma  
1 in 2 → 1 in 200



### **Prevention of VTE in Nonorthopedic Surgical Patients**

## **Major trauma**

Low dose unfractionated heparin

Low molecular weight heparin

Mechanical prophylaxis

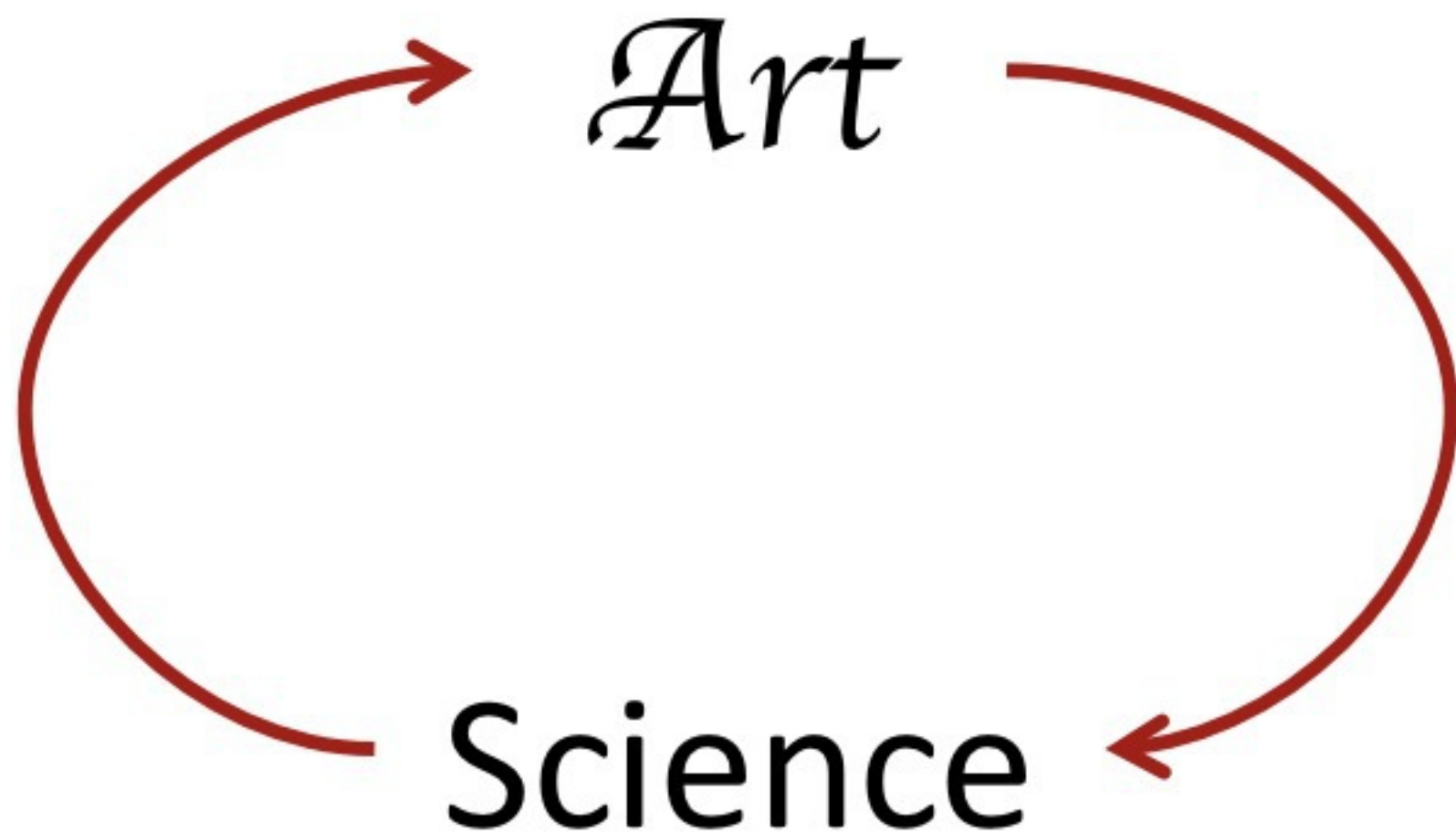
**Grade 2C – weak recommendation:  
low or very low quality evidence**






# + Barriers to Adoption of Guidelines







*“The trouble with the world is  
that the stupid are  sure...  
and the intelligent are full of  
doubt.”*

**Bertrand Russell**



## **Worst injury**

## **Score**

Head & neck

Minor **+1**

Face

Moderate **+2**

Chest

Serious **+3**

Abdomen

Severe **+4**

Extremity (incl pelvis)

Critical **+5**

External

Unsurvivable **+6**

## **Take 3 worst areas**

$$\text{ISS} = (\text{score})^2 + (\text{score})^2 + (\text{score})^2$$

Range 1-75 (75 automatically if any score is 6)

Polytrauma = ISS >15



## Randomised studies trauma patients

Study (patients N)	ISS	Comparison (VTE rate)		Significant
Fisher (n=304)	? (mainly hip fractures)	SCD (4%)	No prophylaxis (11%)	Yes (p=0.02)
Knudson (n=181)	15	SCD (1.6%)	LMWH (0.8%)	No
Ginzburg (n=442)	2/3: 9-19	SCD (2.7%)	LMWH (0.5%)	No
Geerts (n=435)	23	LDUH (44%)	LMWH (31%)	Yes; p=0.014
Stannard (n=200)	14	LMWH (13.4%)	Footpump + LMWH (8.7%)	



The trouble with the world is  
that the stupid are cocksure  
and the intelligent are full of  
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**Bertrand Russell**