

# Wells Criteria

## Wells Score (Pretest Probability of deep vein thrombosis)

Clinical Features	Score
Active cancer	1
Paralysis, paresis, LE immobilization	1
Recently bedridden for > 3 days OR Major surgery within 4 weeks	1
Local tenderness along the deep veins	1
Entire leg edematous	1
Calf swelling > 3 cm as compared to the asymptomatic leg	1
Pitting edema (> than contralateral leg)	1
Collateral superficial veins	1
Alternative diagnosis is more likely than a deep vein thrombosis	-2

Wells PS, Anderson DR, Bormanis J, et al. Value of assessment of pretest probability of deep-vein thrombosis in clinical management. *Lancet* 1997; 350:1795  
Wells PS, Anderson, DR, Rodger M, et al. Evaluation of D-dimer in the diagnosis of suspected deep-vein thrombosis. *N Engl J Med* 2003; 349:1227.

## Scores

### 0 or less

- low probability (3%)
- perform D-dimer
- Normal D-dimer (<500 ng/mL) - no further testing needed
- Positive D-dimer (> 500 ng/mL) - venous duplex recommended

### 1-2 points

- Moderate probability (17%)
- perform D-dimer
- Normal D-dimer (<500 ng/mL) - no further testing needed
- Positive D-dimer (> 500 ng/mL) - venous duplex recommended

### 3-8 points

- High probability (50-75%)
- Recommend performing an initial venous duplex  
(no d-dimer recommended)

\*d-dimer test is more helpful to rule out a venous thromboembolism (VTE) than rule in a VTE