



# Embolism and thrombosis: mortality rates from VTE

NICE indicator

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[www.nice.org.uk/indicators/ind61](https://www.nice.org.uk/indicators/ind61)

## Indicator

Mortality rates directly associated with VTE.

## Indicator type

Network / system level indicator.

The indicator would be appropriate to understand and report on the performance of networks or systems of providers.

This document does not represent formal NICE guidance. For a full list of NICE indicators, see our [menu of indicators](#).

To find out how to use indicators and how we develop them, see our [NICE indicator process guide](#).

## Rationale

Venous thromboembolism (VTE) is a major cause of death in hospital patients and treatment of non-fatal symptomatic VTE and related long-term morbidities are associated with considerable cost to the health service. An increase in the mortality rate will identify where prevention has failed and guide action that will help to prevent unnecessary deaths.

## Source guidance

[Venous thromboembolic diseases: diagnosis, management and thrombophilia testing. NICE guideline NG158 \(2020, updated 2023\)](#)

## Specification

**Numerator:** Of the denominator, the number of people who die as a result of VTE (where VTE is recorded in part 1 as cause of death in the death certificate).

**Denominator:** The number of registered deaths.

**Calculation:** Numerator divided by the denominator, multiplied by 100.

**Exclusions:** None.

**Data source:** [ONS mortality statistics](#).

**Minimum population:** The indicator would be appropriate to understand and report on the performance of networks or systems of providers.

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