

Signs & symptoms

A clot in the vein (usually in the leg or pelvis) is known as a **deep vein thrombosis (DVT)** and a clot that breaks off and travels to the lungs is known as a **pulmonary embolism (PE)**. Together, DVT and PE make up **venous thromboembolism (VTE)**. Venous thromboembolism is a leading cause of death and disability worldwide.

Clots in the legs (DVT - Deep Vein Thrombosis):

What are the main signs and symptoms?*

- Swelling or pain in the leg or calf
- Skin discolouration
- Part or all of the leg feels hot/red/swollen

Clots in the lungs (PE – Pulmonary Embolism):

What are the main signs and symptoms?*

- DVT symptoms
- Abnormal shortness of breath
- Sharp chest pain, particularly on breathing deeply
- Coughing up blood

What can I do to try to prevent this:

- Drink plenty of fluids
- Increase mobility
- Be aware of the above signs and symptoms

Speak to your doctor or nurse if you are concerned – you may be at risk.

**You may not experience all or any of these symptoms'*