



**All-Party Parliamentary  
Thrombosis Group**



**'VENOUS THROMBOEMBOLISM IN THE NHS' - A LEADERSHIP SUMMIT**  
Convened by the Chief Medical Officer and the All-Party Parliamentary  
Thrombosis Group

Thursday 25 June 2009, 09.00 to 1.00  
The Royal Society (Wellcome Trust Lecture Hall)  
6-9 Carlton House Terrace, London SW1Y 5AG

The Department of Health published the first version of the Venous Thromboembolism (VTE) risk assessment template for use in hospitals in September 2008. This risk assessment has been described as "a world first" and follows the development of Department of Health policy that all adult patients should receive a risk assessment for VTE on admission to hospital. This has the potential to prevent many thousands of avoidable deaths from VTE each year.

The Department of Health expects this venous thromboembolism (VTE) risk assessment policy to be adopted throughout the NHS. As you may know, Dr Anita Thomas OBE, is leading the Government's national VTE prevention strategy and has been asked to visit throughout the NHS to discuss with senior managers and doctors their strategies for implementing VTE risk assessment in their hospitals. The Government will be monitoring the position closely and formally reviewing the policy in a year's time and have announced that if there is inconsistency in, or lack of commitment to implementation, they will consider making it mandatory to perform VTE risk assessments.

VTE is one of the commonest causes of avoidable death in our hospitals today. The All-Party Parliamentary Thrombosis Group has been vigorously campaigning for VTE prevention to be given the priority in the NHS it deserves. We are therefore delighted to invite you to attend 'Venous Thromboembolism in the NHS', a leadership summit, jointly hosted by the DH and the All-Party Parliamentary Thrombosis Group.

The aim of this summit is to provide NHS leaders with a high level overview of the need to improve the prevention and management of VTE in their organisations by:

- Raising awareness of the Department of Health VTE risk assessment policy;
- Highlighting the business and clinical case for effectively preventing VTE;
- Showcasing a variety of regional VTE best practice prevention initiatives;
- Identifying barriers to implementing a coherent VTE risk assessment strategy;
- Encouraging the development of regional and local VTE prevention initiatives.

Speakers will include senior figures from the Department of Health, Government and NHS leaders who are at the forefront of exemplar practice in this area.

Please see the enclosed agenda for further details of the format of the day. We do hope you will be able to confirm your attendance for what promises to be an educational and thought provoking discussion. We would be grateful if you could RSVP to the All-Party Parliamentary Thrombosis Group Secretariat



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([jen@insightpa.com](mailto:jen@insightpa.com) / 020 7824 1869) who will be responsible for arranging this event in partnership with the national VTE prevention team.

Yours sincerely,

SIR LIAM DONALDSON  
CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER

JOHN SMITH MP  
CHAIRMAN  
ALL-PARTY PARLIAMENTARY  
THROMBOSIS GROUP