

> [Handb Clin Neurol](#). 2021;177:261-267. doi: 10.1016/B978-0-12-819814-8.00017-2.

Neurologic complications of venous thromboembolism

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PMID: 33632445

Abstract

Patients with neurologic disease are at high risk of venous thromboembolism (VTE). The converse risk of neurological complications in concert or following peripheral VTE is rarely considered. The major neurologic complication following pulmonary embolism or peripheral VTE is intracranial hemorrhage that occurs following anticoagulation therapy for VTE. Ischemic stroke may occur concomitantly with VTE. VT occurrence may also be a marker for a future increased risk of stroke. Peripheral neuropathy may occur or neuropathic pain may occur as a result of thrombophlebitis following deep venous thrombosis. Other sequelae of VTE are somewhat theoretical including the discovery of central nervous system malignancies after incident VTE.

Keywords: Astrocytoma; Brain cancer; Deep venous thrombosis; Intracerebral hemorrhage; Intracranial hemorrhage; Ischemic stroke; Peripheral neuropathy; Postthrombotic syndrome; Pulmonary embolism; Venous thromboembolism.

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