

# Pulmonary Embolism Rule-out Criteria (PERC Rule)

Category: Pulmonology, Emergency | Items: 8 | Time: ~2-3 min

## Description / When to Use

Rule out PE in low-risk patients

## Instructions for Respondent

Please read each statement carefully and respond based on how you have felt over the specified time period. There are 8 items in this scale. Estimated completion time: 2-3 min.

## Scale Items

1. Age  $\geq$  50 (1 point)
2. HR  $\geq$  100 bpm (1 point)
3. SaO<sub>2</sub> < 95% on room air (1 point)
4. Hemoptysis (1 point)
5. Exogenous estrogen use (1 point)
6. Prior DVT or PE (1 point)
7. Recent surgery or trauma ( $\leq$  4 weeks, requiring GA) (1 point)
8. Unilateral leg swelling (1 point)

## Response Options

Yes / No (scored as indicated per item)

## Scoring Guide

Weighted sum of all 8 items. Total range 0-8.

## Cutoff Interpretation

Score Range	Severity	Recommended Action
0-0	PE ruled out	In low pre-test probability, PE essentially excluded; no further workup needed
1-8	Cannot rule out PE	PERC fails — proceed with D-dimer or imaging based on Wells.

## Psychometric Properties

See original validation study for reliability and validity data.

## License

Free to use — public domain or open access.

## Citation (APA Format)

Kline JA et al. J Thromb Haemost. 2004;2(8):1247-1255.  
DOI: 10.1111/j.1538-7836.2004.00790.x

*Disclaimer: Apply only when pre-test probability is low. Educational use only.*