

Wells Criteria for Pulmonary Embolism (Wells Score (PE))

Category: Pulmonology, Emergency | Items: 7 | Time: ~2-3 min

Description / When to Use

Pre-test probability of pulmonary embolism

Instructions for Respondent

Please read each statement carefully and respond based on how you have felt over the specified time period. There are 7 items in this scale. Estimated completion time: 2-3 min.

Scale Items

1. Clinical signs/symptoms of DVT (3 points)
2. PE is #1 diagnosis or equally likely (3 points)
3. Heart rate > 100 bpm (1.5 points)
4. Immobilization \geq 3 days OR surgery in past 4 weeks (1.5 points)
5. Previous DVT or PE (1.5 points)
6. Hemoptysis (1 point)
7. Malignancy (treatment within 6 months or palliative) (1 point)

Response Options

Yes / No (scored as indicated per item)

Scoring Guide

Weighted sum of all 7 items. Total range 0-12.5.

Cutoff Interpretation

Score Range	Severity	Recommended Action
0–1.5	Low probability	Consider PERC; if all negative, PE essentially excluded
2–6	Moderate probability	D-dimer; image if positive.
6.5–12.5	High probability	Imaging (CTPA) without delay.

Psychometric Properties

See original validation study for reliability and validity data.

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Citation (APA Format)

Wells PS et al. Thromb Haemost. 2000;83(3):416-420.
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