

# The Burden of Venous Thromboembolism (VTE) in Cancer

**Venous thromboembolism (VTE)** is the collective term for two related conditions:<sup>1</sup>

- **Deep vein thrombosis (DVT)** – A blood clot within the deep veins, usually in the lower leg, pelvis or thigh<sup>2</sup>
- **Pulmonary embolism (PE)** – Part of a clot from within a deep vein detaches and moves to the lungs, lodging in the pulmonary arteries, causing a potentially fatal condition<sup>1,3</sup>

Approximately

**20%**

of all VTE cases occur in cancer patients<sup>4</sup>



VTE risk is greatest in the **first year** after cancer diagnosis<sup>5</sup>

VTE in cancer patients increases the risk of death **2-6 fold**<sup>6</sup>



The prevalence of VTE in hospitalised cancer patients is increasing<sup>7</sup>

Cancer patients on chemotherapy have a

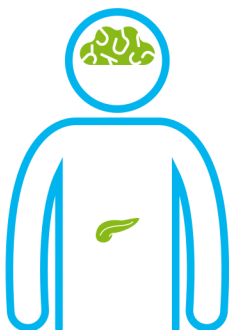
**4-7 fold**

increased risk of VTE compared to the general population<sup>8</sup>



VTE is the **second leading cause of death** in cancer patients receiving chemotherapy<sup>6</sup>

**Brain and pancreatic cancer** are associated with the highest risk of VTE<sup>8</sup>



Operations in cancer patients carry **twice the risk** of VTE compared to non-cancer patients<sup>9</sup>



VTE can **interrupt** cancer treatments<sup>8</sup>

## References

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