

Venous Thromboembolism (VTE) risk assessment data collection Q4 2012-13 Key Points

1.0 Background

- 1.1 The VTE risk assessment data collection was first made mandatory from June 2010, and this publication refers to data for January to March 2013.
- 1.2 The data collection asks for three items of information:
 1. Number of adults admitted as inpatients in the month who have been risk assessed for VTE on admission to hospital using the criteria in the National VTE Risk Assessment Tool
 2. Total number of adult inpatients admitted in the month
 3. Calculated from (1) and (2), the percentage of adult inpatients admitted within the month assessed for risk of VTE on admission
- 1.3 Trusts are required to upload their data on VTE risk assessment onto Unify2 by 20 working days after the month end.
- 1.4 The full data tables and guidance on the data collection can be found: <http://www.england.nhs.uk/statistics/vte/>
- 1.5 For any further queries on this data collection, or if you would like to provide feedback, please contact the VTE mailbox at vte@dh.gsi.gov.uk

2.0 VTE risk assessment

- 2.1 VTE is a significant international patient safety issue. The first step in preventing death and disability from VTE is to identify those at risk so that preventative treatments can be used. The purpose of this data collection is to quantify the numbers of adult hospital admissions who are being risk assessed for VTE to allow appropriate prophylaxis based on national guidance from NICE¹. Such measures have the potential to save many lives each year.
- 2.2 All providers of NHS funded acute hospital care (including foundation trusts and independent sector providers of acute NHS services) must complete this data collection. Providers of non-acute health services are not asked to complete this data collection, although they should be aware that all patients should be protected from unnecessary risk of VTE.
- 2.3 This data collection is a census of all patients – it is not appropriate to use sampling methodologies to produce estimates. This data collection also serves as the mechanism to enable providers to demonstrate to their commissioners that they have achieved the national CQUIN goal on VTE in 2012/13².

¹ The NICE guidance can be found at the following link: <http://guidance.nice.org.uk/CG92>

² Further information about CQUIN framework:
http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH_133856

- 2.4 This data collection on VTE risk assessment is intended to embed VTE risk assessment across the NHS and will be critical in evaluating the impact of the National VTE Prevention Programme on improving health outcomes for patients. As a result, we expect to move quickly to focus on audit of appropriate prophylaxis.

3.0 Analysis

Number of data returns

- 3.1 The number of data returns submitted by NHS providers of acute funded care reached 318 by the end of Q4 2012-13, slightly up from 315 in Q3 2012/13. In Q4 2012-13 155 separate returns were received from Independent Sector (IS) providers, this is slightly higher than the 152 returns in the previous quarter (Q3 2012-13). The number of NHS acute providers submitting a data return in the quarter was 162, the same as in Q3 2012-13. Only one Primary Care Trust (PCT) provider submitted a data return for Q3 2012-13, the same as in Q3 2012-13.

Nil returns

- 3.2 Providers are required to provide information based on a census of patients. Providers who submit data based on a sample or audit of patients are not included in the figures below, and are classed as a “nil return”. Providers who did not have any admissions in a particular month are also classed as a ‘nil return’.

Proportion of total admissions getting a risk assessment

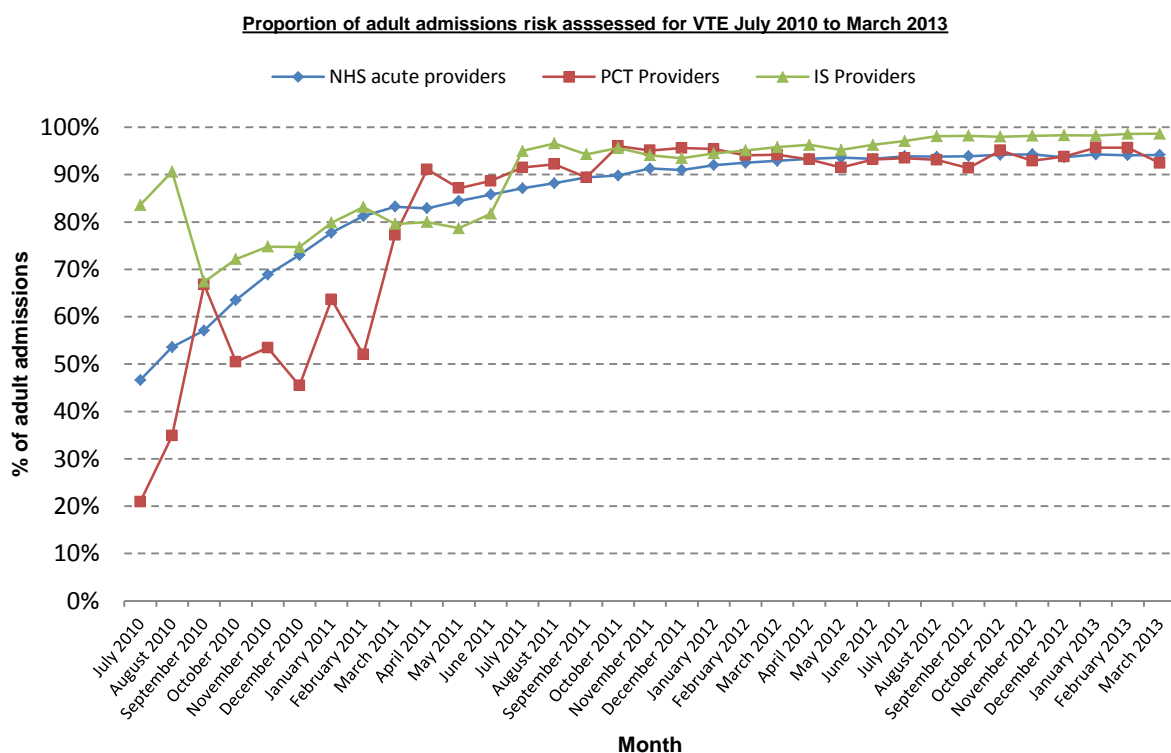
- 3.3 Over the period Q4 2012-13 providers reported around 3.4 million adult admissions to NHS funded acute care. 94.3% of these received a VTE risk assessment on admission, similar to 94.2% in Q3 2012-13.
- 3.4 In Q4 2012-13, the proportion of admissions receiving a VTE risk assessment was slightly lower for NHS acute providers (94.2%) than IS providers (98.5%), with NHS acute providers carrying out around 97% of all VTE risk assessments. In Q4 2012-13, the PCT providing NHS funded acute care returned data with the proportion of admissions receiving a VTE risk assessment at 95%.

Table 1 – Proportion of adult hospital admissions risk assessed for VTE

	January 2013	February 2013	March 2013	Q4 2012- 13
NHS acute providers	94.3%	94.1%	94.1%	94.2%
PCT Provider	95.7%	95.7%	92.4%	94.6%
IS Providers	98.3%	98.6%	98.7%	98.5%
All providers of NHS funded acute care	94.4%	94.2%	94.3%	94.3%

- 3.5 A chart showing the proportion of adult admissions risk assessed for VTE since July 2010 is shown below. There has been a steady increase in the proportion in all providers of NHS funded acute care, from 47% in July 2010 to 94% in March 2013.

Figure 1 – Proportion of adult hospital admissions risked assessed for VTE



3.6 A breakdown of the reported proportion of admissions who receive a VTE risk assessment for providers by Strategic Health Authority in Q4 2012-13 is shown in the table below.

Table 2 – Proportion of adult hospital admissions risk assessed for VTE reported by providers by SHA in Q4 2012-13

SHA	Proportion risk assessed
North East	93.1%
North West	94.7%
Yorkshire & The Humber	93.8%
East Midlands	93.1%
West Midlands	94.6%
East of England	97.2%
London	93.4%
South East Coast	95.2%
South Central	93.5%
South West	94.0%