

UK Foot and Ankle Thromboembolism Audit (FATE-UK)

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Type	AUDIT
Specialty	orthopaedics
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Background

Venous thromboembolism (VTE) is a recognised complication following foot and ankle surgery, yet post-operative prophylaxis practices vary considerably between UK centres. There are no uniform national guidelines specifically addressing VTE prophylaxis in foot and ankle procedures, and the 90-day incidence of symptomatic VTE in this population is not well characterised. GSTT participates in the UK-FATE national audit to provide multi-centre data on this important patient safety issue.

Aims

To observe the variation in post-operative VTE prophylaxis practices in foot and ankle surgery across the UK and to assess the 90-day incidence of symptomatic VTE in this patient group.

Objectives

1. Document VTE prophylaxis agents, duration, and timing used across participating centres. 2. Record all symptomatic VTE events occurring within 90 days of foot and ankle surgery. 3. Compare local GSTT practice against the national UK-FATE dataset. 4. Identify patient or procedure risk factors associated with post-operative VTE.

Guidelines

NICE NG89 (VTE prevention), local VTE guidelines

Keywords

VTE, thromboembolism, foot and ankle, prophylaxis, FATE-UK, LMWH