

A joint scientific statement outlining venous thromboembolism research priorities

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The International Society on Thrombosis and Haemostasis (ISTH) and the American Heart Association (AHA) have released a joint scientific statement titled, "Venous Thromboembolism Research Priorities,"

identifying five top priorities for research on venous thromboembolism (VTE), published today in the ISTH journal *Research and Practice in Thrombosis and Haemostasis (RPTH)* and *Circulation*, the flagship journal of the American Heart Association. Developed by nine global hematology experts with survey data from 16 scientific organizations, the statement encourages multi-disciplinary approaches to solve important research barriers.

As a leading cause of death and disability, efforts to improve VTE prevention, diagnosis and management are essential to saving lives. To address the challenges in [patient care](#), the joint statement provides a comprehensive guide to future research covering five levels of priorities. These include fundamental research, human research, patient research, practice level research, and community and population research. Examples of identified needs include the development of better pre-clinical models, new diagnostic approaches, risk assessments and treatments, defining the long-term health of VTE patients and evaluating the impact of public awareness campaigns.

"The research priorities detailed in the statement provide a foundation for basic scientists and clinical researchers to transform medical care for patients with VTE and improve outcomes," said the statement's chair, Mary Cushman, M.D., M.Sc. "We hope that researchers, [funding agencies](#) and the public globally will see the need for investing in solutions to address the significant public health impacts of VTE."

VTE is a condition in which a blood clot forms most often in the deep veins of the leg, groin or arm, known as [deep vein thrombosis](#) (DVT), breaks free and travels in the circulation, lodging in the lungs, known as pulmonary embolism (PE). It remains a major cause of morbidity and mortality, and affects up to 1 million Americans and 700,000 Europeans every year. Understanding the causes and raising public awareness of VTE could significantly reduce the number of preventable deaths and

disabilities associated with the condition.

More information: Mary Cushman et al. Venous Thromboembolism Research Priorities: A Scientific Statement From the American Heart Association and the International Society on Thrombosis and Haemostasis, *Circulation* (2020). [DOI: 10.1161/CIR.0000000000000818](https://doi.org/10.1161/CIR.0000000000000818)

To learn more about RPTH, the official open-access publication of the ISTH, visit rpth.isth.org.

Provided by American Heart Association

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