

Cancer site, cancer stage \geq 2, liver metastasis, chemotherapy, progesterone, being underweight or obese, hospitalization/nursing home confinement, CV catheter, and infection are independent risk factors for incident VTE in active cancer patients” Ashrani et al (2016).

Abstract:

BACKGROUND: Independent risk factors for cancer-associated incident venous thromboembolism (VTE) and their magnitude of risk are not fully characterized.

AIM: To identify non-cancer and cancer-specific risk factors for cancer-associated incident VTE.

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METHODS: In a population-based retrospective case-control study, we used Rochester Epidemiology Project and Mayo Clinic Cancer Registry resources to identify all Olmsted County, MN residents with active cancer-associated incident VTE, 1973-2000 (cases; n=570) and 1-3 residents with active cancer matched to each case on age, sex, date and duration of active cancer (controls; n=604). Using conditional logistic regression, we tested cancer and non-cancer characteristics for an association with VTE, including a cancer site VTE risk score.

RESULTS: In the multivariable model, higher cancer site VTE risk score (OR=1.4 per 2-fold increase), cancer stage \geq 2 (OR=2.2), liver metastasis (OR=2.7), chemotherapy (OR=1.8) and progesterone use (OR=2.1) were independently associated with VTE, as were BMI $<$ 18.5kg/m² (OR=1.9) or \geq 35kg/m² (OR=4.0), hospitalization (OR=7.9), nursing home confinement (OR=4.7), central venous (CV) catheter (OR=8.5) and any recent infection (OR=1.7). In a subgroup analysis, platelet count \geq 350 \times 10⁹/L at time of cancer diagnosis was marginally associated with VTE (OR=2.3, p=0.07).

CONCLUSION: Cancer site, cancer stage \geq 2, liver metastasis, chemotherapy, progesterone, being underweight or obese, hospitalization/nursing home confinement, CV catheter, and infection are independent risk factors for incident VTE in active cancer patients.

Reference:

Ashrani, A.A., Gullerud, R.E., Petterson, T.M., Marks, R.S., Bailey, K.R. and Heit, J.A. (2016) Risk factors for incident venous thromboembolism in active cancer patients: A population based case-control study. *Thrombosis Research*. 139, p.29-37.

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