
VTE AWARD

Outstanding patient resource, sharing information about VTE prevention for patients

EAST KENT HOSPITALS

Patient information leaflets and other resources to enhance patient awareness & empower them to help for VTE prevention and early diagnosis and management during pregnancy and postnatal period.

Following an incident in 2023, and a thorough evaluation of gaps in patient and clinician information materials relating to venous thromboembolism (VTE) in the maternity setting, the East Kent team created a series of comprehensive educational resources intended to follow a patient's journey and included:

- Patient information leaflets (PIL) covering reducing risk of VTE in pregnancy and post-partum and diagnosis and treatment of VTE in pregnancy and post-partum.
- VTE risk assessment tools accessible for all patients.
- Digital display posters to provide visual awareness of VTE risk, support patient involvement and encourage compliance.

Maternity specific resources from Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (RCOG), National Institute of Health and Care Excellence (NICE), and Thrombosis UK and also MBRRACE Report were referred to by the patient information group.

All resources were reviewed by the Patient Information Group and simultaneously underwent peer review through the guidance committee. Review also utilised the Hemingway Editor readability to ensure content and context was clear and understandable. The PILs has been endorsed by The National Maternal Voices.

Extending accessibility, along with access to printed copies, a QR code is printed on the front page of the patients notes, directing patients to an online version of the PIL.

To encourage uptake, the Team ran a series of training and Q&A sessions to reinforce key information and feedback included 85% of staff now feeling VTE risk assessment was more user friendly.

To monitor impact the team regularly review compliance using a snap tool, audit two sets of patient notes per day and are working towards capturing regular patient feedback, however anecdotal comment has highlighted individuals feel they have a clearer understanding of their VTE risk.

