



DVT Clinical Decision Rule

Patient's Name: _____ **Date:** _____

Clinical Findings	Potential Score <i>a</i>	Actual Score
Active cancer (treatment going on within 6 months or palliative)	1	
Paralysis, paresis, or recent plaster immobilization of lower extremity	1	
Recently bedridden >3 days or major surgery within the previous 12 requiring general or regional anesthesia	1	
Localized tenderness along distribution of the deep venous system <i>b</i>	1	
Entire leg swelling	1	
Calf swelling at least 3 cm larger than that on the asymptomatic leg (measured 10 cm below the tibial tuberosity) <i>c</i>	1	
Pitting edema combined to the symptomatic leg	1	
Collateral superficial veins (nonvaricose)	1	
Previously documented DVT	1	
Alternative diagnosis at least likely as DVT <i>d</i>	-2	
		Total Score:

a Score interpretation:

1. ≤ 0 = probability of proximal lower-extremity deep vein thrombosis (PDVT) of 3% (95% confidence interval [CI] = 1.7%-5.9%).
2. 1 or 2 = probability of PDVT of 17% (95% CI = 12%-23%).
3. ≥ 3 = probability of PDVT of 75% (95% CI = 63%-84%).

b Tenderness along the deep venous system is assessed by firm palpation in the center of the posterior calf, the popliteal space, and along the area of the femoral vein in the anterior thigh and groin.

c Measured 10 cm below tibial tuberosity.

d Most common alternative diagnoses are cellulitis, calf strain, and postoperative swelling.

SportsMedicine of Atlanta is credentialed by the American Physical Therapy Association as a postprofessional clinical fellowship program for physical therapists in Orthopaedic Manual Therapy.