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Pathologies mimicking deep venous thrombosis
Deep vein thrombosis

Affects approximately 100 persons per 100,000 population per year

Clinical signs and symptoms unreliable

42% of unnecessary anticoagulant therapy if clinical signs were used to diagnose DVT

Diagnostic test can rule out DVT in 60 – 80% of symptomatic patients

Deep venous thrombosis

Leg pain
Warmth
Swelling

US: sensitivity 95%  specificity 100%

Clinical suspicion

During 48 months 2,610 patients were examined by duplex Doppler ultrasonography.

562 patients had DVT (21.5%).

1,108 patients (42.5%) had predominant pathology of superficial veins: postthrombotic syndrome, superficial thrombophlebitis and varicose veins.

390 patients (14.9%) had pathology of surrounding structures, unrelated to veins.

550 normal findings (21%).
Alternative diagnoses: Bilateral

Chronic venous insufficiency
Retroperitoneal fibrosis or tumor
Lymphedema
Acrodermatitis chronica atrophians
Lipedema
Systemic edema
  Cardiac insufficiency
  Hypoproteinemia
  Renal failure
  Fluid overload

Right ventricular dysfunction
Right ventricular dysfunction
Right ventricular dysfunction
Alternative diagnoses: Unilateral

Alternative diagnoses: Proximal

Adenopathy
Cellulitis
Soft-tissue tumor
Lymphocele
Haematomas
Pseudoaneurysms /arterio-venous malformations
May-Thurner syndrome
Synovial cyst
Subcutaneous seromas (Morel-Lavallée syndrome)
Lymphedema

Inguinal adenopathy
Pelvic mass
Pelvic mass
Pelvic mass
Pelvic mass
Venous sarcoma

Pseudoaneurysm
Pseudoaneurysm
Arterio-venous fistula
Arterio-venous fistula
May-Thurner Syndrome

Doenz F. [Iliac vein compression syndrome, the "May Thurner Syndrome"]. Praxis (Bern 1994) 2006; 95:460-463.
May-Thurner Syndrome

Doenz F. [Iliac vein compression syndrome, the "May Thurner Syndrome"]. Praxis (Bern 1994) 2006; 95:460-463.
Hematoma

Hematoma
Hematoma

Liponecrosis

Cellulitis and necrosis fascitis

Cellulitis and necrosis fascitis

Cellulitis and necrosis fascitis
Alternative diagnoses: Popliteal

Cellulitis
Benign and malignant masses
Hematomas
Pseudoaneurysms /arterio-venous malformations
Baker cysts
Ganglion cysts
Lymphedema

Lipoma
Pseudoaneurysm

Pseudoaneurysm
Baker cyst

Baker cyst

Baker cyst

Ruptured Baker cyst
Ruptured Baker cyst
Ruptured Baker cyst
Ganglioncyst

Lymphedema
Alternative diagnoses: Lower leg

Cellulitis
Lipomas, hemangiomas, sarcomas
Tennis leg
Hematoma
Panniculitis
Thrombophlebitis
Insect stings

Arteriovenous malformation

Arteriovenous malformation
Tennis leg


Tennis leg
Tennis leg

DVT associated with Tennis leg in 10% of cases
Hematoma
Fig. 26. Summarized diagram of differential diagnosis of calf pain. MO, myositis ossificans; NF, neurofibromatosis; DM, diabetes mellitus.