Blood clots in the veins, a condition also referred to as venous thromboembolism, are a serious medical condition that can cause disability and even death. VTE includes both deep-vein thrombosis (DVT) and pulmonary embolism. DVT is a blood clot that typically forms in the deep veins of the lower leg, thigh, pelvis, or arm. Sometimes a part of the clot can break off and travel to the lungs. This is called a pulmonary embolism, and it can be fatal. If you experience any of these symptoms, you should seek medical help immediately.

SIGNS OF VTE

**HEAD**
lightheadedness or fainting

**LUNG**
difficulty breathing, chest pain or discomfort, coughing up blood

**HEART**
faster than normal or irregular heartbeat

**ARM OR LEG**
sudden or gradual pain, swelling, tenderness and redness or warmth of the skin

THE 2018 ASH CLINICAL GUIDELINES FOR VTE

In 2018, ASH partnered with the McMaster University GRADE Centre, a world leader in guideline development and an authority on thrombosis, and more than 100 experts including hematologists, clinicians in other specialties, and patient representatives, to synthesize the research and develop new clinical practice guidelines for VTE.

For more information on these new guidelines, visit: [www.hematology.org/VTE](http://www.hematology.org/VTE).

The American Society of Hematology (ASH) ([www.hematology.org](http://www.hematology.org)) is the world’s largest professional society of hematologists dedicated to furthering the understanding, diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of disorders affecting the blood. For more than 50 years, the Society has led the development of hematology as a discipline by promoting research, patient care, education, training, and advocacy in hematology.

REFERENCES

