

# Hemodynamic collapse - is your gestalt good enough to empirically lyse?

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# Case

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- 43 year-old M brought in by EMS after found down in the street
- v/s: BP 95/55, HR 105, O2 93% 8L
- Labs:
  - Trp 0.18 ng/mL (Nm < 0.1 ng/mL)
  - Utox + cocaine
- CXR: RLL aspiration pneumonia
- Started on IVFs, Antibiotics
- Admitted to MICU
- 2 hours later, BP 80/40, HR 130, O2 90% 12L

12.2	\ 14.0 /	236	136	103	23 /	310
/ 41.8 \			5.1	20	1.5 \	

Questions:

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**Is this a PE?**

**Would you empirically lyse this patient?**

# American Classification of PE (AHA)

## Low Risk

Normotensive  
No RV dysfunction  
Normal biomarkers

## Submassive (Intermediate Risk)

- Normotensive
- **RV strain** (CTA/TTE)
  - RV dilation
  - RV dysfunction
  - **BNP** > 90 pg/mL, pro-BNP > 500 pg/mL
  - **Trop I** > 0.4 ng/mL, Trop T > 0.1 ng/mL

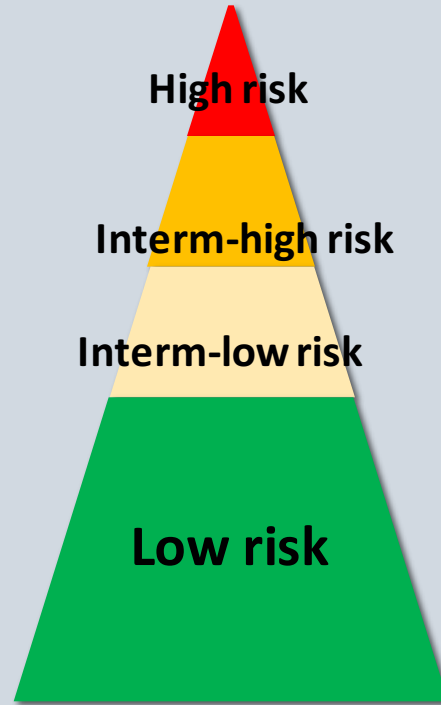
## Massive (High Risk)

- **Hypotension** (SBP < 90 for >15 min)
- **Shock** (on pressor)
- **Pulselessness**

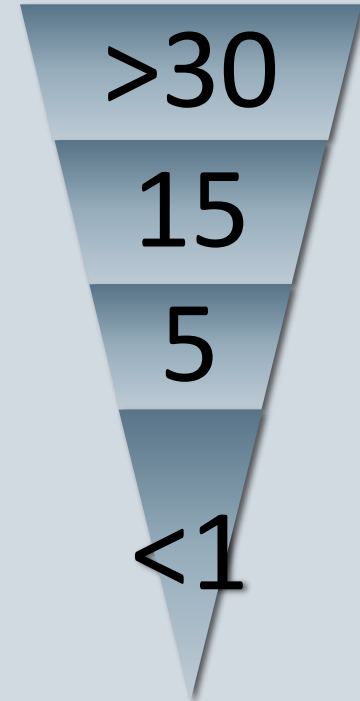
## Prevalence (%)



## PE Classification



## Mortality (%)



How to *diagnose* PE in a  
unstable patient?

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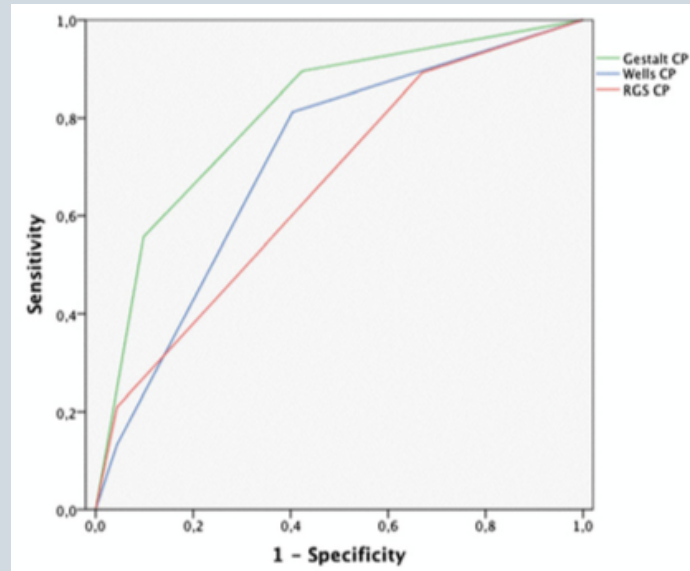
# Step 1: Clinical Probability

Wells score		Revised Geneva score	
Variable	Points	Variable	Points
Previous DVT or PE	1.5	Age >65 years	1
Recent surgery or immobilization	1.5	Previous DVT or PE	3
Cancer	1	Surgery or fracture within 1-month	2
Hemoptysis	1	Active malignancy	2
Heart rate >100 beats/min	1.5	Unilateral lower limb pain	3
Clinical signs of DVT	3	Hemoptysis	2
Alternative diagnosis less likely than PE	3	Heart rate 75–94 beats/min	3
		Heart rate ≥95 beats/min	5
		Pain on lower limb deep vein at palpation and unilateral edema	4
Clinical probability (3 levels)	Total	Clinical probability (3 levels)	Total
Low	0–1	Low	0–3
Intermediate	2–6	Intermediate	4–10
High	≥7	High	≥11
Clinical probability (2 levels)		Clinical probability (2 levels)	
PE unlikely	0–4	PE unlikely	0–3
PE likely	>4	PE likely	>3

DVT: Deep vein thrombosis; PE: Pulmonary embolism.

# Scores vs. Gestalt

	Wells score	Revised Geneva
Shen et al. J Thromb Thrombolysis 2016	AUC 0.78 (CI 0.74-0.81)	AUC 0.69 (CI 0.65-74)





# Clinical Probability of PE-Cardiac Arrest

- Clinical decision rule derived from 44 subjects witnessed PEA arrest
- Triad: **respiratory distress, altered mental status, and shock**

- Sudden Death Expertise Center Registry – Paris, France
- 8294 out-of-hospital cardiac arrest (CA)
- 82/2926 had PE-related CA (2.8%)
- Predictors of PE-related CA
  - **Initial nonshockable rhythm** (OR 12.4, CI 4.9-31)
  - **Previous VTE** (OR 10.4, CI 5.6-19.4)
  - **Absence of known heart disease** (OR 3.8, CI 2-7.3)
  - **Female sex** (OR 1.9, CI 1.2-3.0)

Clinical features observed prior to cardiac arrest

Feature	PE (N=18)	%	Non-PE (N=15)	%
Respiratory distress	14	77.8	10	66.7
Alteration of mental status	13	72.2	7	46.7
Shock index >0.8	14	77.8	4	26.7
2 of 3	15	83.3	5	33.3
3 of 3	8	44.4	2	13.3

## Step 2: Alternative Imaging

Imaging	Sensitivity % (CI)	Specificity % (CI)	Pros	Cons
<b>TTE</b>	74 (61-84)	54 (51-56)	RV dil, RV dysf, clot-in-transit	Availability, Use during CPR
<b>TEE</b>	76	100	Clot in PA, Use during CPR	Availability
<b>Bedside Cardiac US</b>	91 (80-97)	87 (80-91)	Readily available	Expertise
<b>Bedside Leg Venous US</b>	56 (45-60)	95 (88-99)	DVT	Does not rule out PE

Coutance. Crit Care 2011

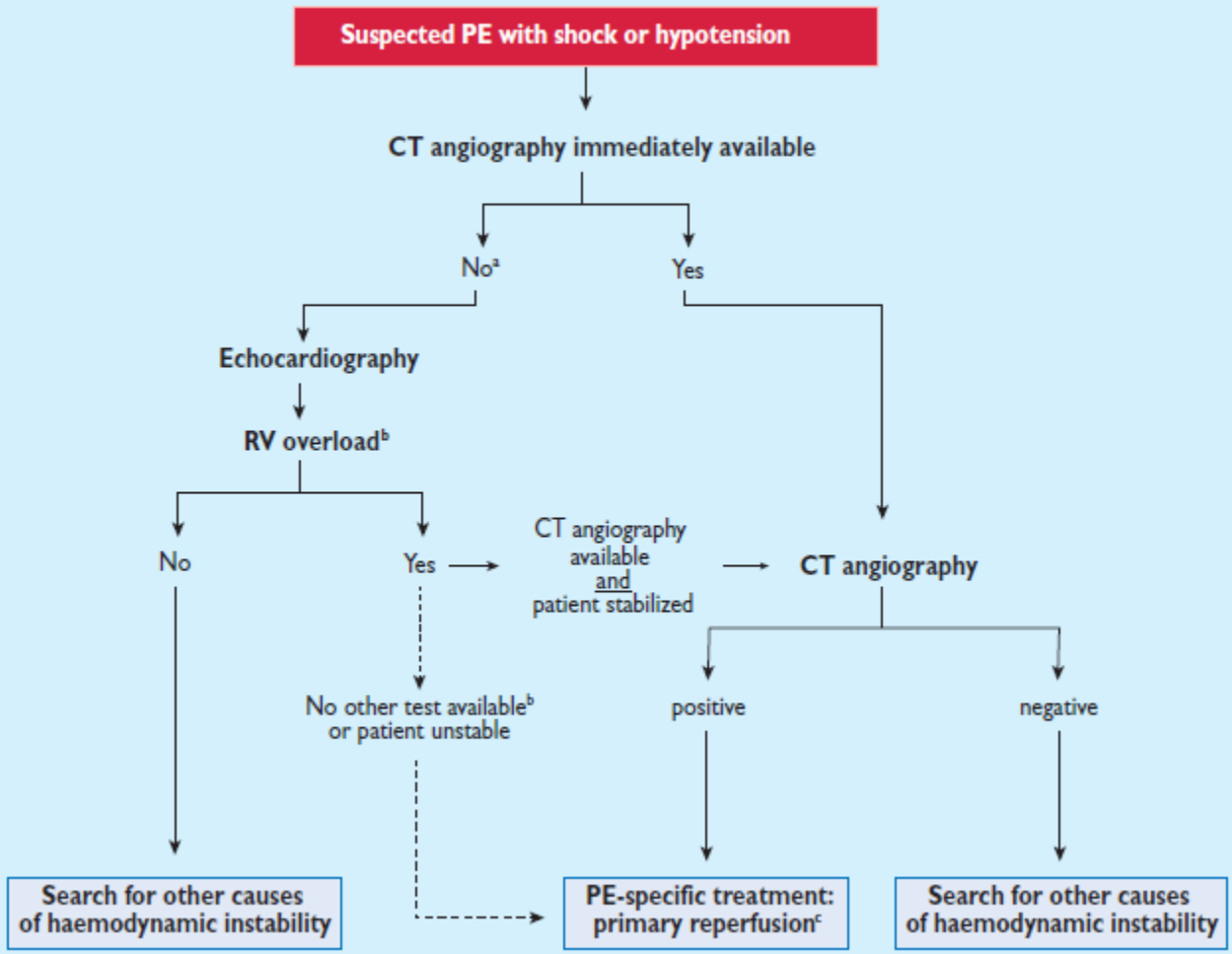
Pruszczyk. 2001. Heart

Nazerian. Intern Emerg Med 2017

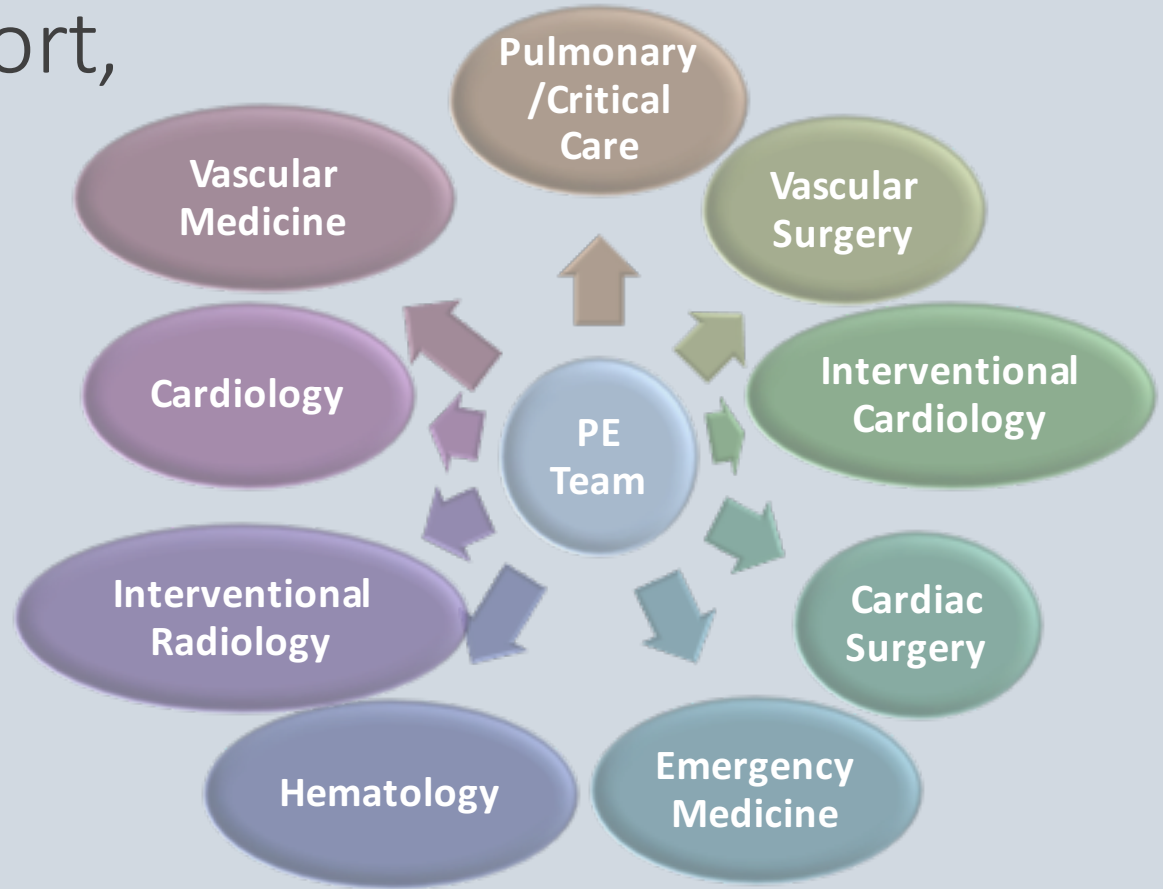
MI: 1.4 PAT T: 37.0C  
T6210 TEE T <37.0C  
16 AUG 10  
11:37:07  
1/0/E/F3  
UNIV. PITTSBURGH  
MEDICAL CENTER  
PUH TEE

1:53:48.03  
GAIN 71  
COMP 65  
81BPM  
12CM  
33HZ



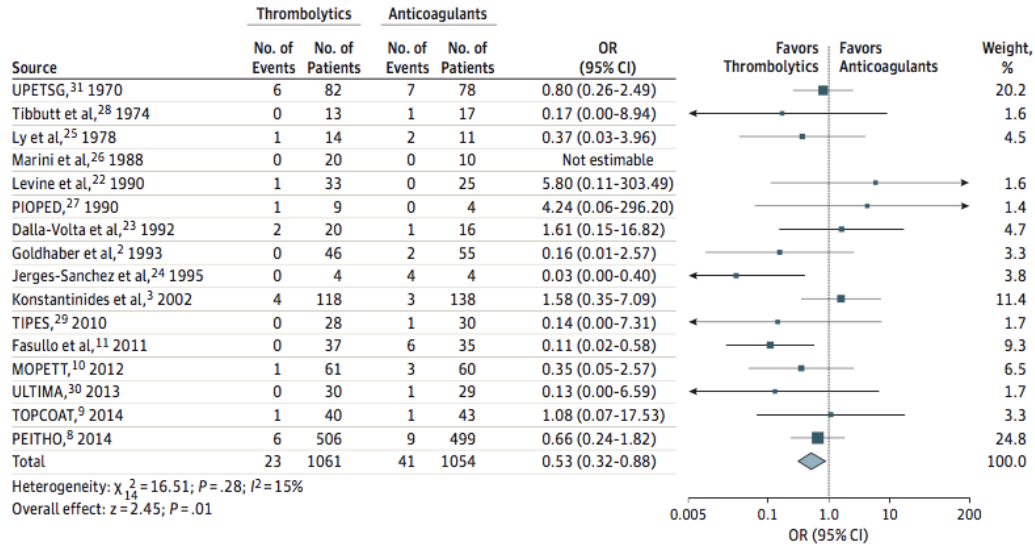


**Step 3: Get support,  
share decision  
making  
Call PERT!**



# Step 4: Determine Risk-Benefit of Thrombolysis

Figure 2. Odds of Mortality in Patients With Pulmonary Embolism Treated With Thrombolytic Therapy vs Anticoagulation



# Thrombolysis

**Table 2. Absolute Risk Metrics of Outcomes of Major Interest**

Outcome of Interest (No. of Studies Reporting)	No. of Events/No. of Patients, Absolute Event Rate (%)		No. Needed to Treat or Harm	P Value
	Thrombolytic Group	Anticoagulant Group		
All-cause mortality (16)	23/1061 (2.17)	41/1054 (3.89)	NNT = 59	.01
Major bleeding (16) <sup>a</sup>	98/1061 (9.24)	36/1054 (3.42)	NNH = 18	<.001
ICH (15)	15/1024 (1.46)	2/1019 (0.19)	NNH = 78	.002
Recurrent PE (15)	12/1024 (1.17)	31/1019 (3.04)	NNT = 54	.003
Age >65 y				
All-cause mortality (5)	14/673 (2.08)	24/658 (3.65)	NNT = 64	.07
Major bleeding (5) <sup>a</sup>	87/673 (12.93)	27/658 (4.10)	NNH = 11	<.001
Age ≤65 y				
All-cause mortality (11)	9/388 (2.32)	17/396 (4.29)	NNT = 51	.09
Major bleeding (11) <sup>a</sup>	11/388 (2.84)	9/396 (2.27)	NNH = 176	.89

<b>Guidelines</b>	<b>AHA 2011</b>	<b>ESC 2014</b>	<b>ACCP 2016</b>
<b>Systemic thrombolysis</b>			
High-risk PE and low bleeding risk	X	X	X
Intermediate-risk PE with severe RV dysfunction and respiratory insufficiency	X		
Intermediate-risk PE with severe symptoms and cardiopulmonary impairment			X
Deterioration after starting AC without hypotension			X
<b>Catheter-directed thrombolysis</b>			
High-risk PE and high bleeding risk	X	X	X
Failed systemic thrombolysis	X		X
Intermediate-risk PE with severe RV dysfunction and respiratory insufficiency	X		
Intermediate-risk PE when systemic thrombolysis is contraindicated		X	



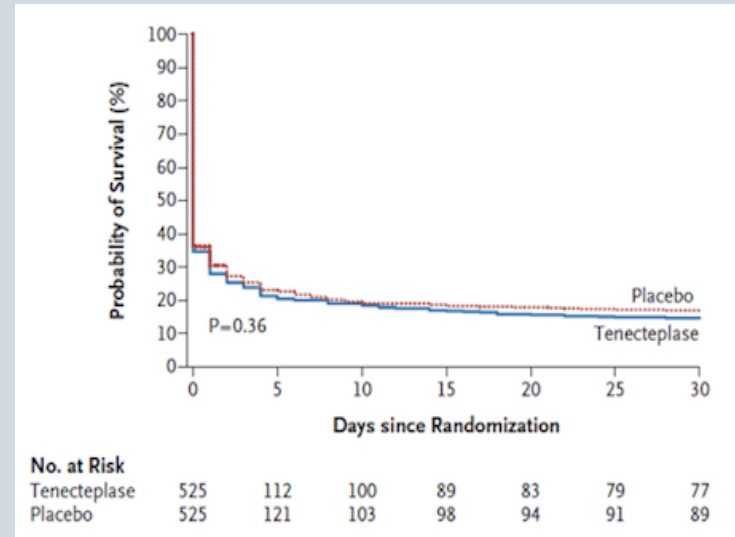
# Thrombolysis in Unstable Massive PE

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- Prospective RCT of 8 patients with massive PE and cardiogenic shock
  - Streptokinase vs Heparin
  - 100% survival in lysis group vs 0% survival in heparin ( $p = 0.02$ )
  - Ethics committee stopped trial early
  
- Retrospective review of Nationwide Inpatient Sample
  - 72,230 hemodynamically unstable patients (shock or ventilator)
  - 30% received thrombolytics
  - Mortality: 15% in lysis group vs 47% no lysis ( $p < 0.001$ )

# Thrombolysis in (All) Cardiac Arrest

- Prospective, multicenter, placebo RCT of 1050 witnessed, out-of-hospital cardiac arrest due to presumed cardiac causes
- 30 day survival: 14.7% thrombolytics vs 17% placebo (p = 0.36)
- No difference in survival to admission, 24-h survival or ROSC
- Confirmed PE subgroup: 2/15 (13.3%) thrombolytics vs 0/22 placebo (p = 0.31)
- 2.7% ICH with lytics



# Thrombolysis in PE-Cardiac Arrest

Author	Year	Study type	Lytics	Results	Bleeding
Janata et al	2003	Retrospective	30/60 (50%)	<b>ROSC:</b> 67% vs 43% (p=0.06) <b>Survival at 24h:</b> 53% vs 23% (0.01) <b>Survival at discharge:</b> No diff	No diff major/minor bleeding

# Take Home Points

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- 3 steps to determine empiric lysis:
  - **Step 1:** Rely on clinical judgement (combined history and physical exam)
  - **Step 2:** Bedside diagnostic tools (TTE, TEE, bedside cardiac or LE US)
  - **Step 3:** Activate PERT! (share decision making)
  - **Step 4:** Estimate risk-benefit ratio for administering thrombolytics
- *Easier said than done!*