

The Emergency Advisory and Research international board on Thrombosis and Hemostasis (EARTH)

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Several years ago, a few European and American emergency physicians discussed the idea of forming an international group of emergency physicians dedicated to research on venous thromboembolism (VTE). This project came to fruition in 2023 with the creation of the Emergency Advisory and Research international board on Thrombosis and Hemostasis (EARTH). Thromboembolism is a trans-disciplinary condition, and its management benefits from a multiprofessional approach. However, emergency physicians have specific perspectives and questions regarding thrombosis and hemostasis. They play a key role in managing patients at various stages of care. For instance, diagnosis, risk stratification, initial treatment, and disposition often fall under the responsibility of emergency physicians [1–7]. The same holds true for acute bleeding disorders, thromboprophylaxis in lower limb trauma, and several other emergency conditions [8–11]. The current main research topics of EARTH members are highlighted in Fig. 1.

Emergency physicians' specific position does not imply that they should operate in isolation, rather the contrary. Emergency physicians frequently collaborate with other specialists to advance VTE research. For example, EARTH recently conducted a Delphi survey to define the adverse events and their timeframe to assess the safety of home discharge from the emergency department (ED) for patients with acute pulmonary embolism (PE), as well as the criteria associated with a high risk of adverse events that may preclude home treatment (the EARTH rule) [12]. The experts who participated included physicians from various medical specialties involved in PE management. With the majority being emergency physicians from EARTH, pharmacists, nurses, and patient representatives also comprised the group. Interestingly, these criteria for outpatient treatment differ in several key aspects from those previously proposed [12]. This likely reflects the unique, international perspective of EARTH's contributors, as healthcare providers directly engaged in making discharge decisions in the ED.

EARTH is now organized as an association and currently includes 33 emergency physicians and health professionals working in emergency settings across 11 countries. Our objectives are to improve knowledge and practices in emergency medicine pertaining to hemostasis disorders and thrombotic pathologies, particularly through:

- (1) sharing scientific information among health professionals from different continents, countries, and institutions;
- (2) conducting collaborative research projects;
- (3) implementing training initiatives;
- (4) developing recommendations and scientific proposals; and
- (5) reviewing clinical practice guidelines regarding VTE for potential endorsement.

As EARTH is an international group, many meetings are held via videoconference allowing broad participation without the need for costly travel, thereby reducing its environmental impact and promoting inclusion.

All emergency physicians and health professionals interested in the management of hemostasis disorders and thrombotic conditions in emergency settings are welcome to join the EARTH initiative. Please do not hesitate to contact us!

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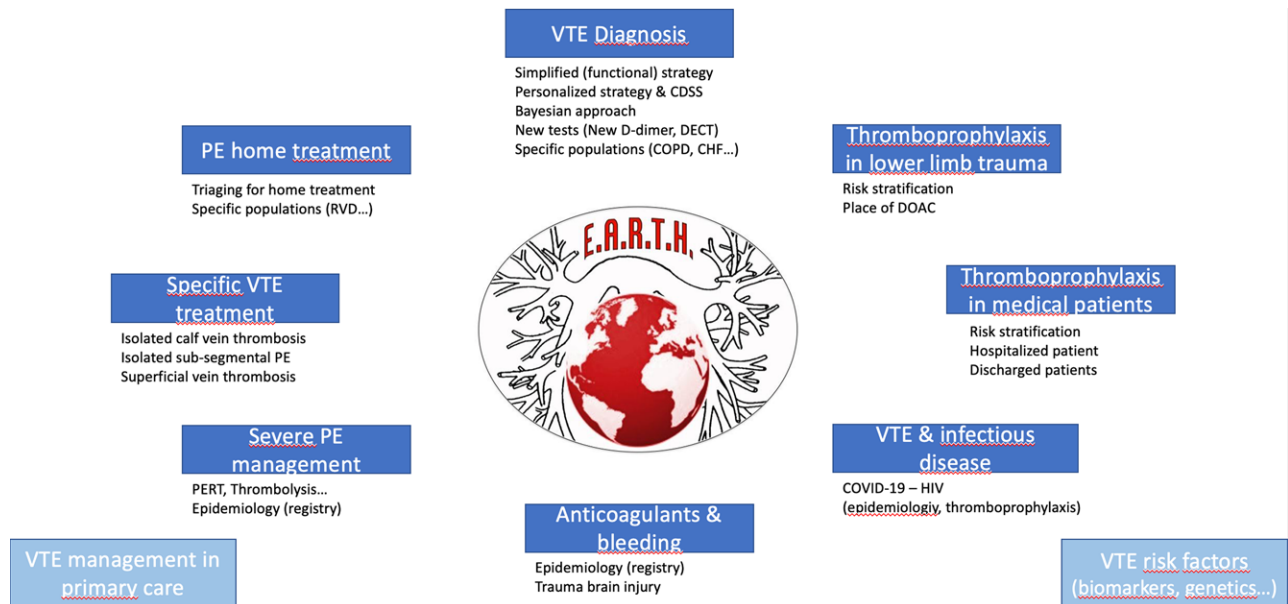
Conflicts of interest

There are no conflicts of interest.

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Fig. 1



Main research topics of EARTH members. CDSS, clinical decision support system; CHF, chronic heart failure; COPD, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease; COVID-19, coronavirus disease 2019; DECT, dual-energy computed tomography; DOAC, direct oral anticoagulation; EARTH, Emergency Advisory and Research international board on Thrombosis and Hemostasis; PE, pulmonary embolism; PERT, pulmonary embolism response team; RVD, right ventricular dilatation; VTE, venous thromboembolism.

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