

Caprini Risk Assessment Model (Caprini Score)

Item	Options	Points
1 point each	Age 41-60 years	1
	Minor surgery planned	1
	Major surgery in the past month	1
	Varicose veins	1
	History of inflammatory bowel disease	1
	Swollen legs (current)	1
	Obesity: BMI over 25	1
	Acute myocardial infarction	1
	Congestive heart failure (in the past month)	1
	Sepsis (in the past month)	1
	Serious lung disease, including pneumonia (in the past month)	1
	Abnormal pulmonary function (COPD)	1
	Medical patient currently at bed rest	1
	Other risk factor not listed on the form	1
	Women: oral contraceptives or hormone replacement therapy	1
	Women: pregnant or postpartum (within 1 month)	1
	Women: history of unexplained stillbirth, 3 or more spontaneous abortions, or premature birth with toxemia or a growth-restricted infant	1
2 points each	Age 61-74 years	2
	Arthroscopic surgery	2
	Malignancy (present or previous)	2
	Major surgery (over 45 minutes)	2
	Laparoscopic surgery (over 45 minutes)	2
	Confined to bed (over 72 hours)	2
	Immobilizing plaster cast (within 1 month)	2
	Central venous access	2
3 points each	Age 75 years or older	3
	History of DVT or PE	3
	Family history of thrombosis	3
	Positive factor V Leiden	3
	Positive prothrombin 20210A	3
	Elevated serum homocysteine	3
	Positive lupus anticoagulant	3
	Elevated anticardiolipin antibodies	3
	Heparin-induced thrombocytopenia (HIT)	3
	Other congenital or acquired thrombophilia	3

Item	Options	Points
5 points each	Elective major lower extremity arthroplasty	5
	Hip, pelvis or leg fracture (within 1 month)	5
	Stroke (within 1 month)	5
	Multiple trauma (within 1 month)	5
	Acute spinal cord injury with paralysis (within 1 month)	5

Interpretation

0	Very low risk. No risk factors checked. Early and frequent ambulation is usually enough; reassess if the patient's condition or mobility changes.
1-2	Low risk. Mechanical prophylaxis, such as intermittent pneumatic compression, is usually suggested along with early ambulation. Follow your facility protocol.
3-4	Moderate risk. Pharmacologic and/or mechanical prophylaxis per protocol, weighed against the patient's bleeding risk. Confirm the plan with the provider.
5-88	High risk (5 or more). Pharmacologic prophylaxis, often combined with mechanical prophylaxis, is usually indicated unless bleeding risk is high. Make sure an order is in place and document it.

Total score: _____ Date: _____ Assessed by: _____

Joseph A. Caprini, 2005 version (Dis Mon 2005), based on a model first described in 1991. Sources: ASPS VTE Task Force: 2005 Caprini risk assessment form; Merck Manual: Prophylaxis based on Caprini score (Gould, CHEST 2012); Gould et al. Prevention of VTE in nonorthopedic surgical patients, CHEST 2012; Bahl et al. Validation of a retrospective VTE risk assessment model, Ann Surg 2010; J Pers Med 2019: Caprini risk categories and subgroups.
Free calculator and full guide: nursingscales.com/caprini-score/ · Educational material; does not replace clinical judgment or facility protocols.