

# Safety and efficiency of the YEARS algorithm versus computed tomography pulmonary angiography alone for suspected pulmonary embolism in patients with malignancy - The Hydra Study

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The YEARS algorithm is non-inferior to management by CTPA with regard to 3-month recurrent VTE rates and will reduce the rate of unnecessary CTPA in patients with clinically suspected PE and active malignancy.

<b>Ethische beoordeling</b>	Positief advies
<b>Status</b>	Werving gestart
<b>Type aandoening</b>	-
<b>Onderzoekstype</b>	Interventie onderzoek

## Samenvatting

### ID

NL-OMON20408

### Bron

Nationaal Trial Register

### Verkorte titel

The Hydra Study

### Aandoening

English keywords:

- diagnosis
- pulmonary embolism
- malignancy

Dutch keywords:

- diagnose
- longembolie
- maligniteit

## Ondersteuning

**Primaire sponsor:** Leiden University Medical Center (LUMC)

**Overige ondersteuning:** LUMC

## Onderzoeksproduct en/of interventie

## Uitkomstmaten

### Primaire uitkomstmaten

To prospectively validate the safety and efficiency of management according to the YEARS algorithm to safely rule out clinically suspected PE in patients with active malignancy to be compared with 'standard' management by CTPA alone in a randomized study. Safety is defined as the number of recurrent venous thromboembolism during three months follow-up in patients with normal initial diagnostic tests. Efficacy is defined as the number of CT scans performed at baseline.

## Toelichting onderzoek

### Achtergrond van het onderzoek

Venous thromboembolism (VTE), including deep vein thrombosis (DVT) and pulmonary embolism (PE), is a frequent complication of malignancy[2]. Patients with malignancy were associated with a 4-fold risk of VTE compared patients without malignancy, where chemotherapy increased this risk to 6.5-fold[3]. The development of VTE is presumed to be due to the production of pro-coagulant molecules by malignant cells and to the pro-coagulant effect of these cells spread into the circulation[4]. Furthermore, many factors contribute to the thrombotic risk in malignancy patients, including classical thrombotic risk factors (i.e. age, bed-rest, history of VTE, and comorbid conditions) and risk factors typical of malignancy (i.e. type and stage of malignancy, anti-malignancy treatments)[3, 5, 6].

Diagnosing PE in patients with malignancy

Because of its diagnostic accuracy and wide availability, multi-row detector computed tomography pulmonary angiography (CTPA) is currently the imaging test of choice to confirm or exclude acute PE [7, 8]. However, this diagnostic test can yield useless or misleading test results if done without appropriate clinical indication [9]. Therefore, circulating D-dimer concentrations and clinical predictions rules were developed as complementary diagnostics steps.

The D-dimer is a biomarker that is routinely used in conjunction with clinical parameters in the initial assessment of suspected acute PE[10]. Although it is well documented that the D-dimer test is useful in the diagnostic workup of patients with suspected PE, it is thought that the D-dimer test is of less value in patients with malignancy due to often elevated levels in absence of thrombosis [11, 12]. According to previous studies, the incidence of normal D-

dimer levels (cut off at 0.5µg/mL or age-adjusted) in patients with a malignancy and suspected PE may be as low as 10-15% [1, 13].

Several clinical decision rules (CDRs) have been developed for estimating the pre-test probability of PE. CDR can be combined with D-dimer testing to rule out PE in case of a non-high probability and a normal D-dimer test [14]. However, it is recognized that CDRs may not be as effective and safe in patients with malignancy. Recently, the YEARS study combined three elements of the Wells rule (i.e. clinical signs of deep vein thrombosis, hemoptysis, and whether pulmonary embolism is the most likely diagnosis) with D-dimer testing for exclusion of PE, of which the cut-off level is dependent whether YEARS items are absent or not. The study showed that CTPA could safely be avoided in an additional absolute 13% of patients compared with standard algorithms [1]. This reduction could be achieved, according to the worst case scenario, at an only 0.78% (95% CI 0.49-1.2) failure rate with regard to the 3-month incidence of recurrent venous thromboembolism. However, this algorithm showed highest failure rates (2.6%, 95%CI 1.3-5.2) in a relatively small subgroup of patients with malignancy (9.7% of the YEARS study population). Moreover, a recent meta-analysis demonstrated that the D-dimer test (cut off <0.5µg/mL), combined with the diagnostic Wells rule, resulted in a similar 2.6% (95% confidence interval (CI) 0.57-11) 3-month failure rate of diagnosing PE in patients with malignancy[13]. This was also highest among all subgroups. As a consequence of unknown safety and efficacy of CDRs in patients with malignancy and presumed futility of D-dimer as a diagnostic test, clinicians-oncologists may often directly order a CTPA when suspecting PE. However, avoidance of CTPA use results in less radiation exposure, contrast material allergy and contrast material induced nephropathy, as well as leads to a reduction of irrelevant sub-segmental emboli detection and health care costs [15-17].

## **Doel van het onderzoek**

The YEARS algorithm is non-inferior to management by CTPA with regard to 3-month recurrent VTE rates and will reduce the rate of unnecessary CTPA in patients with clinically suspected PE and active malignancy.

## **Onderzoeksopzet**

Visit 1 (enrollment):

- Check for in- and exclusion criteria
- Obtain informed consent
- Randomization
- Medical history
- Demographic data
- Clinical examination
- Laboratory test (d dimer, renal function) (Part of clinical practice, no study proceedings)
- Decision of diagnostic method (management according to YEARS algorithm or CTPA alone)

Visit 2 (3 months follow up)

- Recording of death, adverse events, pulmonary embolism, deep vein thrombosis, major bleeding, re-hospitalization, anticoagulation therapy usage

Trial schedule:

The total duration of this study is expected to be 30 months.

Ethics approval in the primary research center is aimed to be achieved by second quarter of 2019 and by end of 2019 in the participating centers.

Subject recruitment is planned to start in June 2019 and end in February 2024.

The follow up-period will end in summer 2024, allowing for analysis of data and first assessment of results in autumn 2024.

## **Onderzoeksproduct en/of interventie**

The Hydra-study will be a randomized controlled, multicenter international trial with a non-inferiority analysis for the main safety outcome (rate of 3-month VTE); if non-inferiority has been demonstrated at secondary stage a superiority analysis for the efficiency judgment criterion (rate of unnecessary CTPA) will be performed. The two randomized arms will exist of diagnostic management according to the YEARS algorithm and diagnostic management by CTPA alone.

## **Contactpersonen**

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## **Deelname eisen**

### **Belangrijkste voorwaarden om deel te mogen nemen (Inclusiecriteria)**

In order to be eligible to participate in this study, a subject must meet all of the following criteria:

- Clinically suspected PE as judged by the treating clinician
- Any type of active malignancy (other than basal-cell or squamous-cell carcinoma of the skin), defined as diagnosis within six months before the study inclusion (as confirmed histologically or high suspicion as judged by the clinician), receiving treatment for malignancy at time of inclusion or during 6 months prior to randomisation or in the presence of metastases, including recurrent or local metastatic malignancy
- Age  $\geq$  18 years

## **Belangrijkste redenen om niet deel te kunnen nemen (Exclusiecriteria)**

A potential subject who meets any of the following criteria will be excluded from participation in this study:

- Symptoms for more than 10 days
- Medical or psychological condition that would not permit completion of the study or signing of informed consent, including life expectancy less than 3 months, or unwillingness to sign informed consent
- Treatment with full-dose therapeutically dosed anticoagulation that was initiated 24 hours or more prior to eligibility assessment
- Contraindication to CTPA
  - o contrast allergy
  - o impaired kidney function (eGFR  $<30$  ml/min/1,73m<sup>2</sup>)
- Hemodynamic instability at presentation (as a consequence of concurrent acute PE or otherwise), indicated by at least one of the following:
  - o systolic blood pressure (SBP)  $< 100$  mm Hg, or heart rate  $>120$  beats per minute or SBP drop by  $> 40$  mm Hg, for  $> 15$  min
  - o need for catecholamines to maintain adequate organ perfusion and a systolic blood pressure of  $> 100$  mmHg
  - o need for cardiopulmonary resuscitation
- Suggestion of PE on previously performed oncologic CT scan, for which now PE-specific diagnostic testing is only performed as means of verification
- Participating in another concurrent study on thromboprophylaxis
- Prior participation in the Hydra study

## **Onderzoeksopzet**

### **Opzet**

Type: Interventie onderzoek

Onderzoeksmodel:	Parallel
Toewijzing:	Gerandomiseerd
Blinding:	Open / niet geblindeerd
Controle:	Actieve controle groep

## Deelname

Nederland	
Status:	Werving gestart
(Verwachte) startdatum:	23-07-2019
Aantal proefpersonen:	1566
Type:	Verwachte startdatum

## Voornemen beschikbaar stellen Individuele Patiënten Data (IPD)

**Wordt de data na het onderzoek gedeeld:** Nog niet bepaald

### Toelichting

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## Ethische beoordeling

Positief advies	
Datum:	14-05-2019
Soort:	Eerste indiening

## Registraties

### Opgevolgd door onderstaande (mogelijk meer actuele) registratie

Geen registraties gevonden.

### Andere (mogelijk minder actuele) registraties in dit register

Geen registraties gevonden.

## In overige registers

Register	ID
NTR-new	NL7752
Ander register	METC LUMC : ABR research file number NL68754.058.19

## Resultaten

### Samenvatting resultaten

none