

2015 "Elevator" Speech

- One in four people worldwide are dying from causes related to thrombosis, a blood clot.
- VTE (blood clots in the leg and lungs) is a leading cause of death and disability worldwide and a major contributor to the global burden of thrombosis.
- Being in the hospital is a leading risk factor for developing a blood clot; up to 60 percent of all VTE cases are hospital associated.
- Blood clots *can be prevented.* Exercise your right as a patient and insist on a VTE risk assessment. (As a part of that assessment, ask for a pulse check to determine an irregular heartbeat, a sign of atrial fibrillation)
- For World Thrombosis Day (13 October), Think VTE and share information and resources about VTE with your friends and family. Go to <u>WorldThrombosisDay.org</u>.

