

# VTE assessment in Surgical Management of Miscarriage

R. Dwyer, V. Wong, D. Borlase

Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Lewisham and Greenwich NHS Trust  
Stadium Road London SE18 4QH

## Introduction

VTE is a leading cause of maternal death representing around 1.39 per 100,000 maternities<sup>1</sup>.

Although the majority of these occur in the 3<sup>rd</sup> trimester and post partum, still 10.1% occur in the first trimester<sup>1</sup>.

Further 16% of deaths occur in the 1<sup>st</sup> trimester alone<sup>1</sup>.

This highlights the need for obstetric VTE assessment for surgical management of miscarriage (SMM).

## Distribution of VTE in pregnancy and puerperium

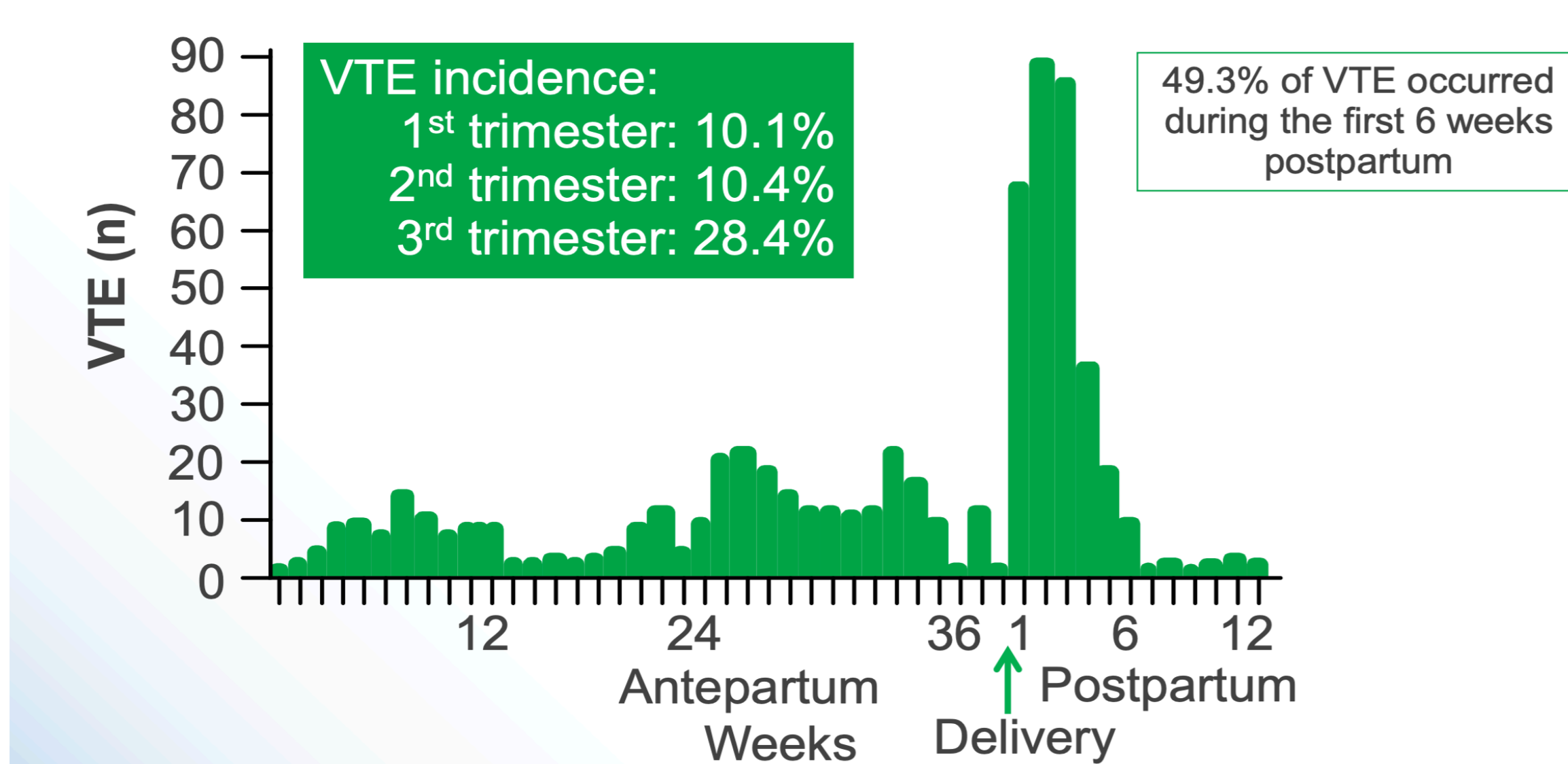


Figure 1: Distribution of VTE in pregnancy and puerperium<sup>1</sup>

## Results

- 100% of cases had a computer VTE assessment done
- 100% had age, BMI documented

Figure 3 : Demographic of patients by age and BMI

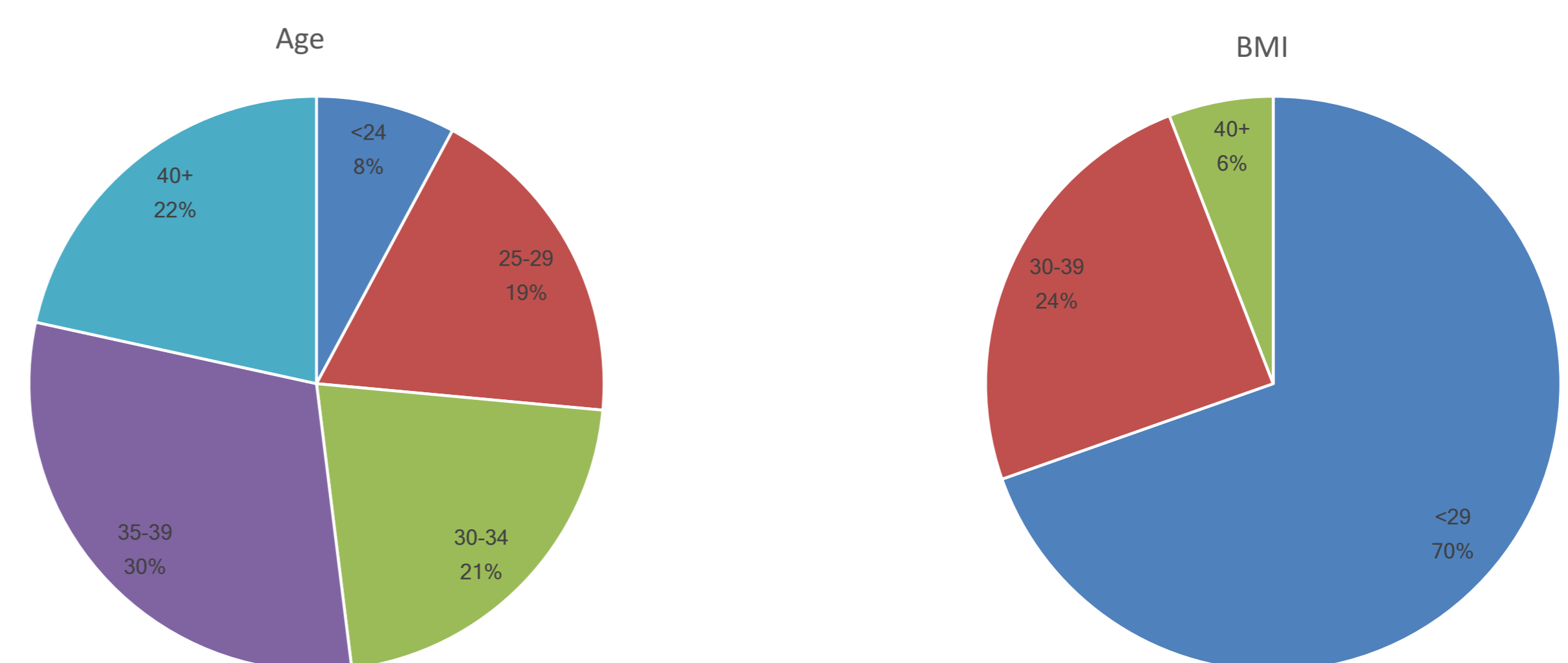


Figure 4 : Pie chart of TEDS prescribed for all cases

Figure 5 : Pie chart of VTE correct for all cases

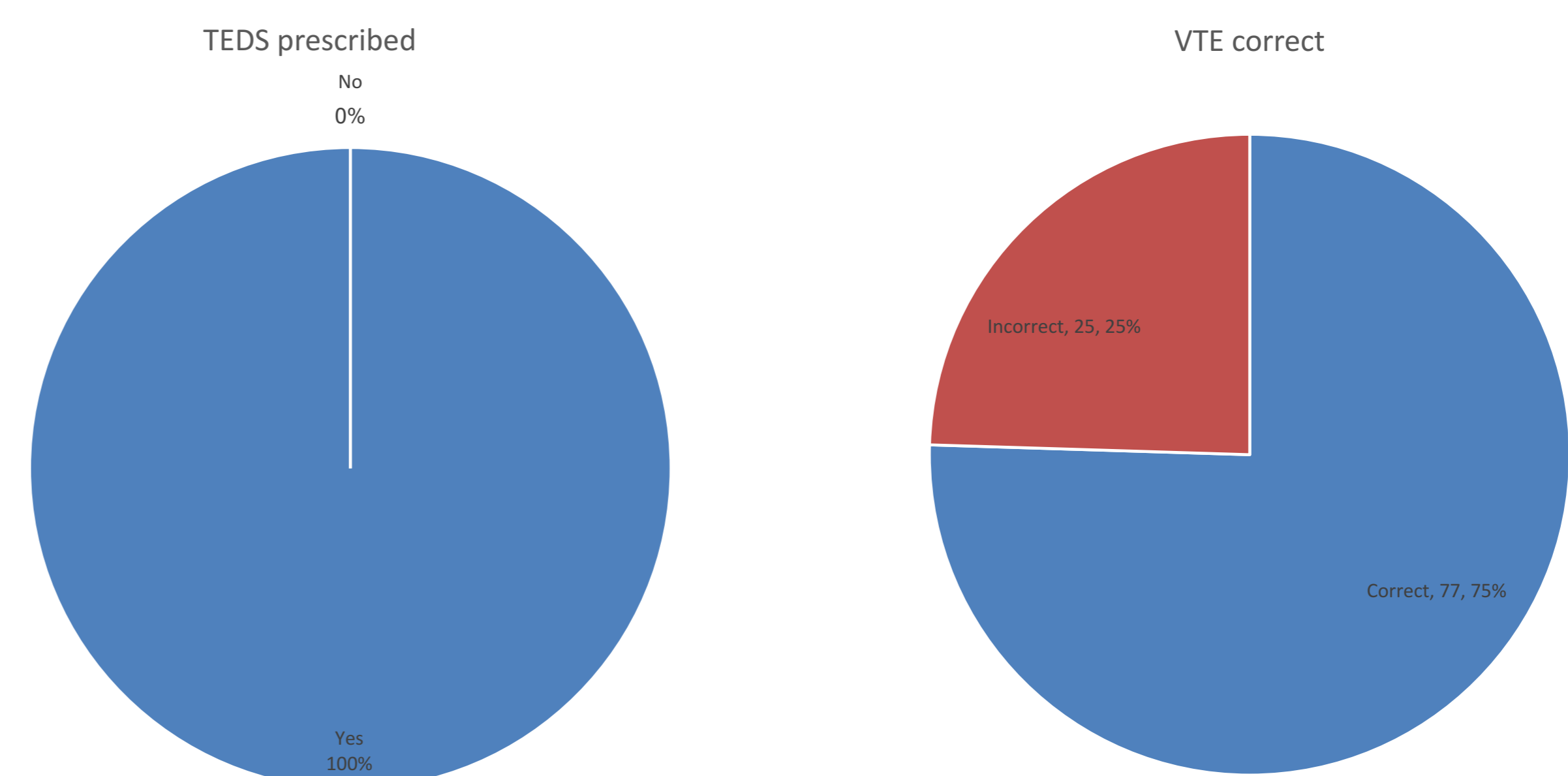
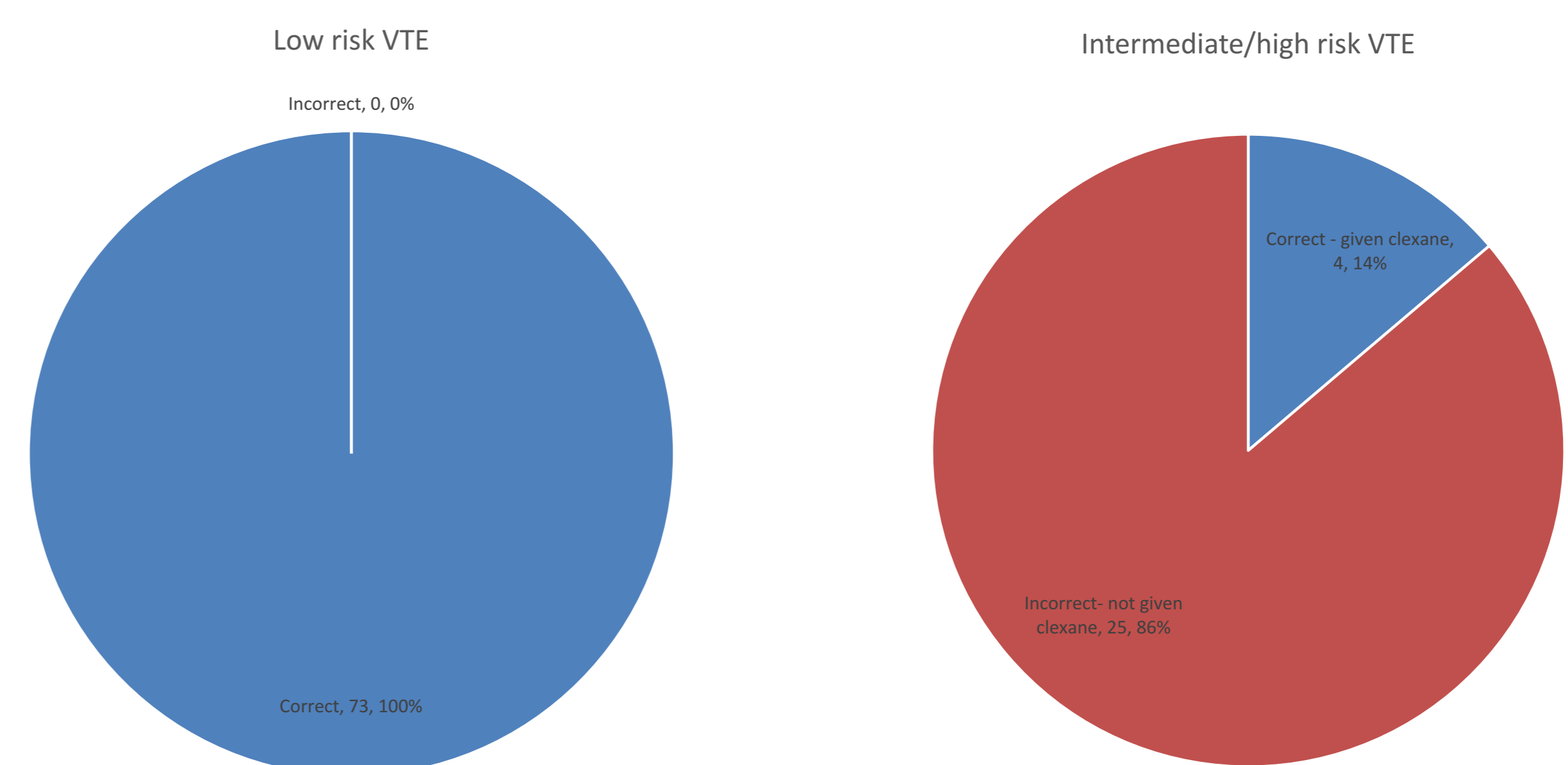


Figure 6 : Was clexane correctly given in low risk and in intermediate/high risk



## Method

•Audit of 102 cases of SMM between August and December 2019 in a busy district general hospital

- We reviewed electronic notes looking at
  - VTE assessment done
  - VTE risk factors including age, BMI, smoker, previous VTE
  - TEDS prescribed
  - Obstetric VTE assessment correct – low or intermediate/high risk
  - If intermediate/high risk was clexane given

## Obstetric VTE assessment

Do they need clexane?

Example	Is clexane needed?
41 year old woman BMI 32 No other risk factors	✓
31 year old woman BMI 28 No risk factors	✗
35 year old woman BMI 29 Smoker and signs of infection	✓

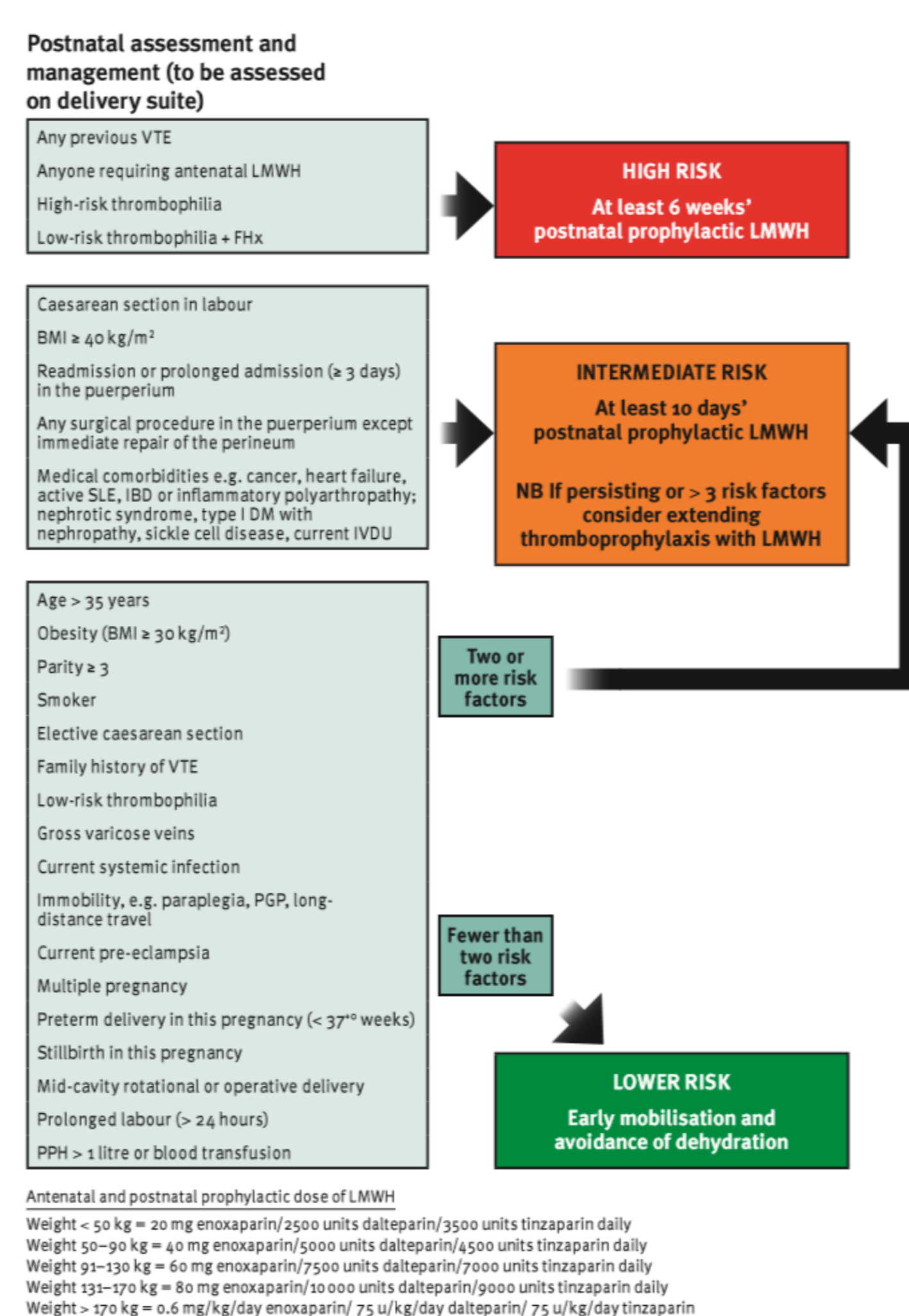


Figure 2: Obstetric VTE assessment flow chart<sup>2</sup>

## Conclusion

Of our 102 cases, 29 cases were deemed to be intermediate or high risk and only 14% were actually given clexane on discharge.

This review highlighted the need for a clear VTE obstetric assessment to add to our units' SMM care bundle.

We are also currently educating all our juniors to remember to do the obstetric VTE assessment prior to discharge.

We will be re-auditing the results in due course.