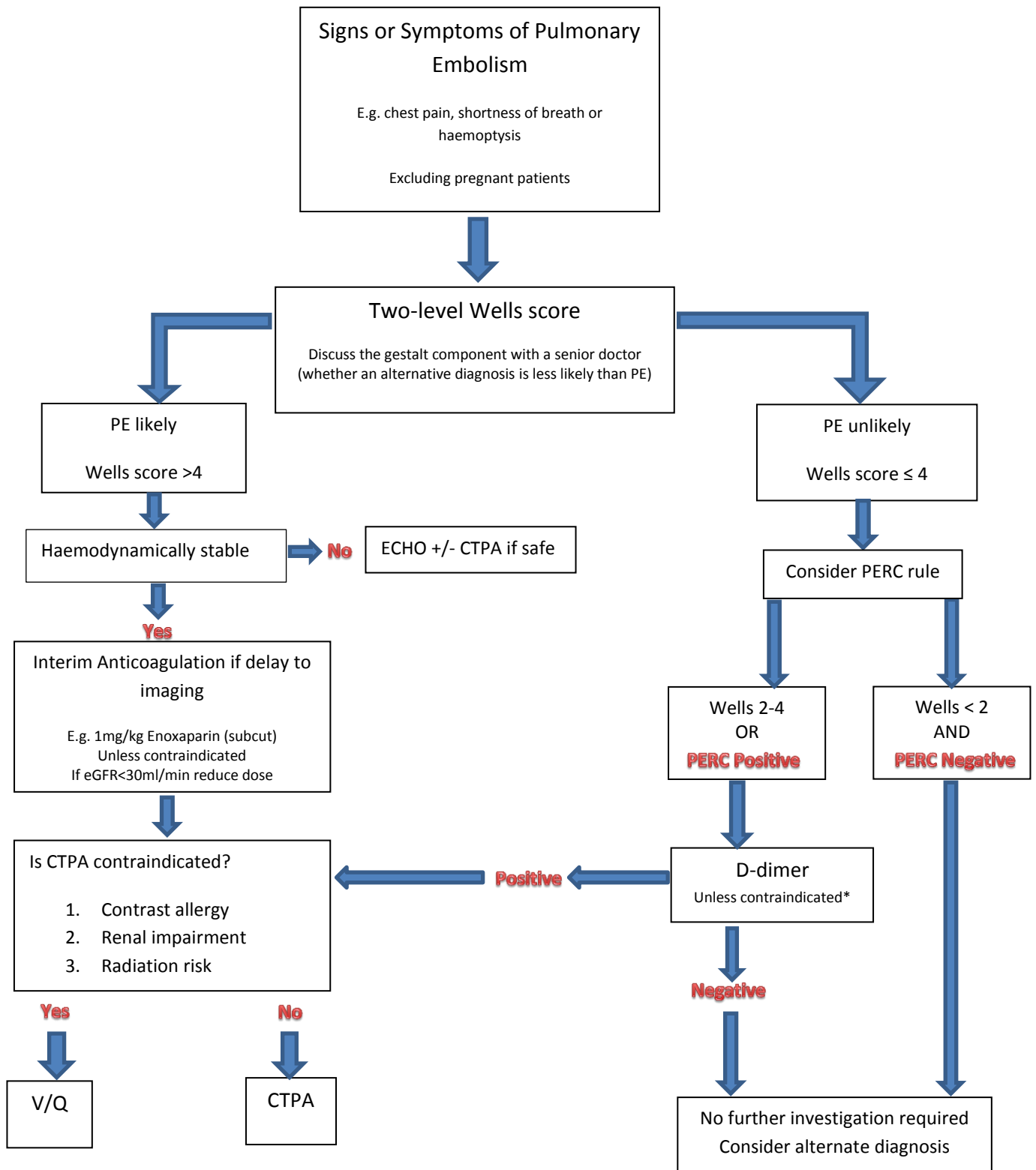


Diagnosis of Pulmonary Embolism



*D-dimer unreliable if recent surgery or trauma/inpatient/symptoms of VTE present for more than 7 days – discuss with senior doctor prior to requesting test

Two-level PE Wells Score

Clinical feature	Points	Patient score
Clinical signs and symptoms of DVT (minimum of leg swelling and pain with palpation of the deep veins)	3	
An alternative diagnosis is less likely than PE	3	
Heart rate > 100 beats per minute	1.5	
Immobilisation for more than 3 days or surgery in the previous 4 weeks	1.5	
Previous DVT/PE	1.5	
Haemoptysis	1	
Malignancy (on treatment, treated in the last 6 months, or palliative)	1	
Clinical probability simplified scores		
PE <i>likely</i>	More than 4 points	
PE <i>unlikely</i>	4 points or less	

Pulmonary Embolism Rule-out Criteria (PERC)

PE can be ruled out if none of the 8 PERC criteria are present in patients with a low pre-test probability of PE (e.g. Wells < 2 or 3 in keeping with the clinical gestalt of a senior physician).

- Age < 50 years
- Pulse < 100 beats min
- SaO₂ ≥ 95%
- No haemoptysis
- No oestrogen use
- No surgery/trauma requiring hospitalization within 4 weeks
- No prior venous thromboembolism (VTE)
- No unilateral leg swelling