Supplementary

Appendix 1

According to the data of the four-cell table of D-dimer provided in *Table 3* of the study by Chen *et al.* (17), its OR and 95% CI can be directly calculated (86). The following are the specific steps and results:

(I) Obtain the diagnostic results of D-dimer from the four-cell table (unit: number of people)

	VTE (+)	VTE (–)	Total
D-dimer (+)	TP = 14	FP = 12	26
D-dimer (–)	FN = 5	TN = 50	55
Total	19	62	81

(II) Calculate the OR

$OR = \frac{TP \times TN}{FP \times FN} = \frac{14 \times 50}{12 \times 5} \approx 11.67$

(III) Calculate the 95% CI of OR

The Woolf method (logarithmic transformation method) was used to calculate the standard error (SE) and CI:

(i) Calculate the logarithm OR (lnOR)

$\ln OR = \ln(11.76) \approx 2.46$

(ii) Calculate SE

$SE(\ln OR) = \sqrt{\frac{1}{TP} + \frac{1}{TN} + \frac{1}{FP} + \frac{1}{FN}} = \sqrt{\frac{1}{14} + \frac{1}{50} + \frac{1}{12} + \frac{1}{5}} \approx 0.60$

(iii) Calculate 95% CI

$95\%\ CI_{\ln OR} = \ln OR \pm 1.96 \times SE = 2.46 \pm 1.96 \times 0.60 = [1.28, 3.64]$

Convert back to the original scale:

$95\%\ CI_{OR} = e^{|1.28,\ 3.64|} = [3.60, 38.08]$

(IV) Summary of results

OR (D-dimer): 11.67

95% CI: [3.60, 38.08]

(V) Verification

Consistency check: The sensitivity (0.737) and specificity (0.806) of D-dimer in *Table 2* are consistent with the data in the four-cell table (14/19 ≈ 0.737, 50/62 ≈ 0.806), verifying the accuracy of the data.

References

86. Bland JM, Altman DG. Statistics notes. The odds ratio. BMJ 2000;320:1468.

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