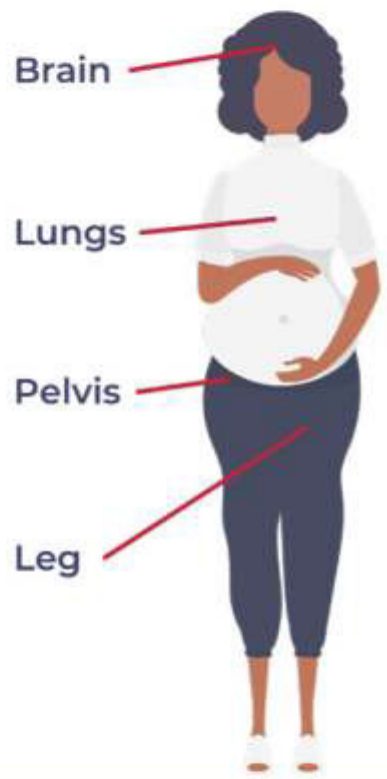
Blood Clots in Pregnancy and After Birth

WHAT IS A BLOOD CLOT?

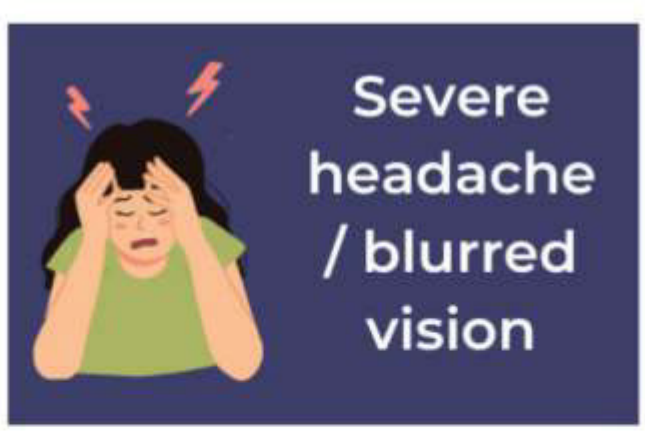
A blood clot is a semi-solid mass of blood cells and other substances that form inside a blood vessel, which obstructs the flow of blood and can have serious consequences.

It usually forms in the deep veins of the leg or pelvis. A piece of this clot can break off and travel to the lungs. In rare cases, venous blood clots can occur in the blood vessels of the brain.



Blood clots are more likely to happen when you are pregnant and in the six weeks after your baby is born.

SIGNS TO LOOK OUT FOR:



Be vigilant for the signs of a blood clot, as it is important to diagnose it rapidly, and to start treatment with a blood thinner as soon as possible.

For further information:
www.hse.ie/eng/about/who/cspd/ncps/vte/resources/