



Blood?

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WHAT IS HEMOPHILIA?

Hemophilia is a rare disorder in which your blood doesn't clot normally because it lacks sufficient blood-clotting proteins (clotting factors). If you have hemophilia, you may bleed for a longer time after an injury than you would if your blood clotted normally. People with this genetic condition are called "hemophiliacs" or "bleeders"

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Hemophilia is an inherited disorder. It prevents blood from clotting properly. People with hemophilia bleed longer than usual.

This bleeding can range from mild to severe. In severe cases, people with hemophilia can bleed to death.

Because of the way in which hemophilia is inherited, it almost exclusively affects men. Women can get it, but it is very rare.



WHAT IS Hemophilia?



WHAT IS Hemophilia?

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Hemophilia A - is the most common type of hemophilia. People with hemophilia A do not have enough clotting factor VIII. Most people with hemophilia A have severe disease as manifested by bleeding into the large joints such as the knees or hips.

Hemophilia B - is also known as Christmas disease. It is caused by a deficiency in clotting factor IX. It can be mild, moderate or severe.

Hemophilia C - is also called factor XI deficiency. It is uncommon in the United States. Hemophilia C is caused by a deficiency in clotting factor XI. It is inherited differently than Hemophilia A or B. As a result, it can be passed to both male and female children.



Types of Hemophilia

Affected Organs







Brain



Bleeding in the head and sometimes in the brain which can cause long term problems, such as seizures and paralysis. Death can occur if the bleeding cannot be stopped or if it occurs in a vital organ such as the brain.



Affected Organs

How it Can be Obtained









CAUSE

Hemophilia is an inherited disorder. This disease is caused by the lack of one of the plasma proteins associated with clotting. Hemophilia is caused by a mutation or change, in one of the genes, that provides instructions for making the clotting factor proteins needed to form a blood clot. This change or mutation can prevent the clotting protein from working properly or to be missing altogether. These genes are located on the X chromosome.

Effects of Hemophilia







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-Unexplained and excessive bleeding from cuts or injuries, or after surgery or dental work.

-Many large or deep bruises

-Unusual bleeding after vaccinations

-Pain, swelling or tightness in your joints

-Blood in your urine or stool

-Nosebleeds without a known cause

-In infants, unexplained irritability





How Can it be Detected, Prevented, and Treated?







DETECTION

Hemophilia is diagnosed with blood tests to determine if clotting factors are missing or at low levels, and which ones are causing the problem. If you have a family history of hemophilia, it is important that your doctors know the clotting factor your relatives are missing. You will probably be missing the same one.



PREVENTION

Hemophilia is a genetic (inherited) disease and cannot be prevented. Genetic counseling, identification of carriers through molecular genetic testing, and prenatal diagnosis are available to help individuals understand their risk of having a child with hemophilia.



TREATMENT

The best way to treat hemophilia is to replace the missing blood clotting factor so that the blood can clot properly. This is typically done by injecting treatment products, called clotting factor concentrates, into a person's vein. Clinicians typically prescribe treatment products for episodic care or prophylactic care. Episodic care is used to stop a patient's bleeding episodes; prophylactic care is used to prevent bleeding episodes from occurring.

The End

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