

CNMC Sample Travel Letter

To Whom It May Concern:

_____ is an almost 11 year old male with mild (5%) Hemophilia A, a blood clotting deficiency of Factor VIII. Children with hemophilia do not bleed faster than other children, but bleeding may be prolonged. Children with mild hemophilia generally do not experience bleeding complications unless they are exposed to a surgical challenge or traumatic injury. At his most recent Hemophilia Comprehensive Evaluation in July 2003, he was in excellent physical health.

It is our recommendation that _____ receive Recombinant Factor VIII in the event of a bleeding episode requiring treatment. We recommend 25-30 units/Kg for minor bleeding. This dose will provide a 50-60% correction. Factor products come in several different assays. _____ should receive approximately 800-960 units for suspected joint or muscle bleeding. Factor VIII should not be wasted. Please administer the entire contents of the vial even if it exceeds the recommended dose range noted above.

In the event of suspected head, neck or abdominal bleeding, this dosage should be doubled. Factor VIII replacement should **not** be delayed for any diagnostic studies (CT, MRI, etc.). Bleeding will continue until factor VIII replacement is administered and a delay in treatment could result in life or limb threatening complications.

After reconstitution, recombinant factor VIII should be administered slowly via intravenous push over five to ten minutes. The package insert provides specific instructions for mixing the dried factor concentrate with the diluent, and administering the factor. As with the use of all blood products, we recommend that gloves be worn when mixing and infusing the factor.

There are several products available that use recombinant DNA technology to manufacture factor VIII replacement products. These products are manufactured without the use of pooled plasma. These products are expensive and many hospitals do not stock this type of medication. **Therefore, we recommend that families maintain a supply in the event of a bleeding episode requiring treatment. _____ and his family will be traveling and we recommend that they travel with the medication and all necessary supplies (needles and syringes, etc.) with them at all times.** We appreciate your cooperation.

If you have any questions concerning the hemophilia treatment for this patient, please call Dr. _____, pediatric hematologist, at 202-XXX-XXXX from 8:30 am to 5:00 pm. After 5:00 pm, you can reach the hematologist on call at Children's Hospital at 202-XXX-XXXX.

Thank you for your assistance in providing medical care for this child.

Sincerely,

Name of Hemophilia Nurse Coordinator
Hemophilia Nurse Coordinator
Children's National Medical Center
Hemophilia Treatment Center

