



# TREATMENTS FOR HAEMOPHILIA

## WHAT IS HAEMOPHILIA?

Haemophilia is a **life-long** condition where **blood does not clot properly**. It is often **passed down** from a parent to a child and is caused by a lack of proteins (**clotting factors**) in the blood that control bleeding.<sup>1</sup>

There are two main types of haemophilia:

### HAEMOPHILIA A

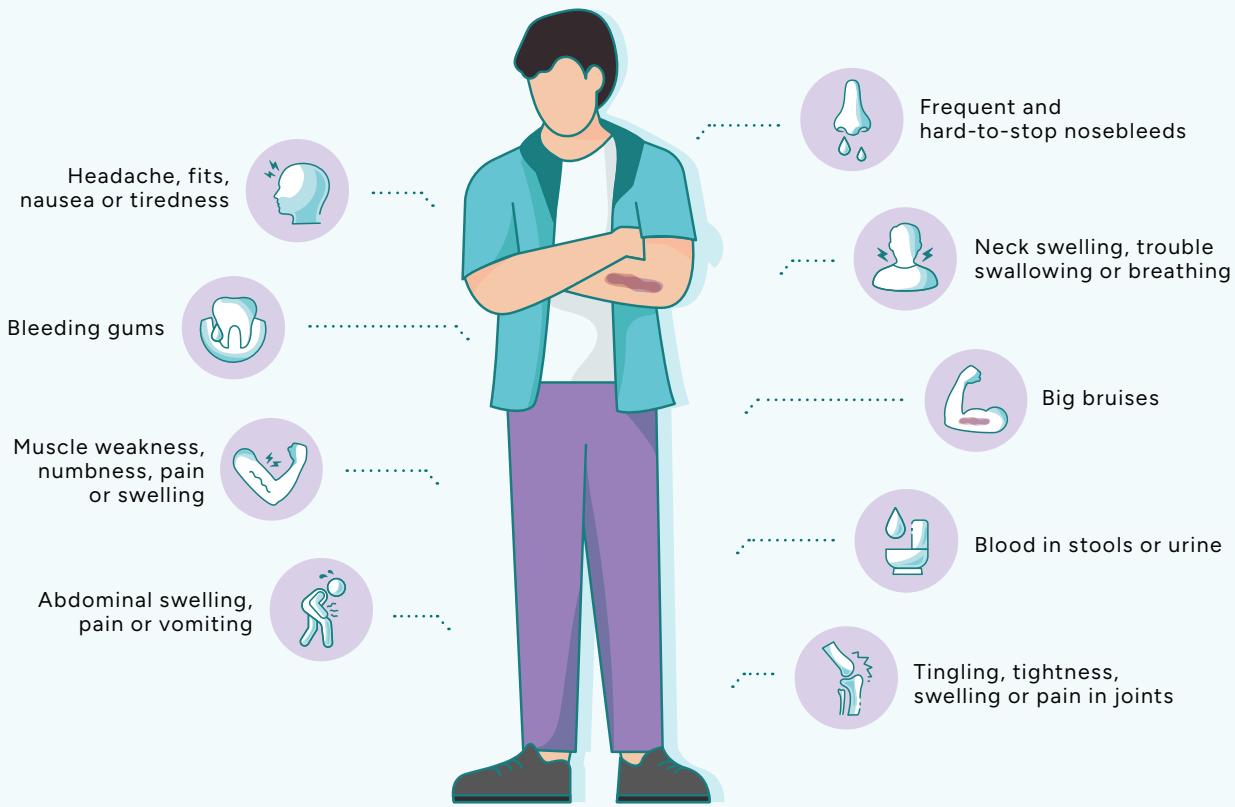
The **most common** form caused by having low levels of **clotting factor eight (VIII)**

### HAEMOPHILIA B

A **less common** form caused by having low levels of **clotting factor nine (IX)**

People with haemophilia do not bleed faster but can bleed **longer** than other people. Bleeding can occur **inside or outside the body** due to injury, dental treatment, surgery or without any obvious cause.

**Symptoms** can range from being mild to serious depending on how much clotting factor is missing and **where** the bleeding occurs:



## HOW IS HAEMOPHILIA TREATED?

Effective treatments are available to treat and prevent bleeding and allow people to live **healthy and active** lives. Treatments can be given **regularly** or **when needed**.

The **choice** of treatment depends on **different reasons** such as how severe the bleeding is; whether you need to have treatment regularly or when needed; if you have developed antibodies (inhibitors) that stop certain clotting factors from working; as well as your **personal needs** and **preferences**.

### Regularly (prophylaxis)

To **prevent** bleeding before it starts



### When needed (on-demand)

To **treat** bleeding when it happens, or before surgery or dental treatment<sup>3</sup>



## TREATMENTS FOR HAEMOPHILIA

### Clotting Factor Replacement Therapies

Treatments that **replace the clotting factor** that is low or missing in the blood to help blood clot properly and prevent or reduce bleeding.

#### Plasma-derived products made from donated blood

- Plasma-derived factor VIII
- Plasma-derived factor IX

#### Recombinant factor concentrates made in a laboratory and not from blood

	Standard half-life (Lasts for 8-12 hours in the body)	Extended half-life (Lasts longer in the body)
Factor VIII	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Advate</li><li>• NovoEight</li><li>• Nuwiq</li><li>• Xyntha</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Adynovate</li><li>• Afstyla</li></ul>
Factor IX	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• BeneFIX</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Idelvion</li></ul>



Given slowly into a vein (intravenously)

### Other Therapies

Treatments that help blood to clot **without replacing the clotting factor**. These are usually given to people who develop inhibitors to clotting factors.

- Factor VIII Inhibitor Bypassing Activity (FEIBA)
- Recombinant factor VIIa (NovoSeven)



Given slowly into a vein (intravenously)

- Emicizumab



Given as an injection under the skin (subcutaneously)

**Key:** Factor VIII, Factor eight; Factor IX, Factor nine; Factor VIIa, Activated Factor seven.

### WHAT DOES THE EVIDENCE FROM CLINICAL STUDIES SAY?

#### Clotting Factor Replacement Therapies

**Plasma-derived products and recombinant factor concentrates** are effective treatment options for **haemophilia A and B** without inhibitors.

#### Other Therapies

**FEIBA** and **NovoSeven** are effective treatment options for **haemophilia A and B** with inhibitors. **Emicizumab** is also an effective option for treating **haemophilia A** with or without inhibitors.



### SUBSIDISED TREATMENTS

ACE reviewed all available clinical evidence and received clinical advice from doctors about each treatment.

#### SUBSIDISED

These treatments are **effective** and provide the best value for money (most cost-effective) for haemophilia at the prices proposed by the companies.<sup>4,5</sup>

- ✓ Plasma-derived factor VIII<sup>#</sup>
- ✓ Recombinant factor VIII (Adynovate, Advate and Xyntha)<sup>#</sup>
- ✓ Recombinant factor IX (BeneFIX)<sup>#</sup>
- ✓ Factor Eight Inhibitor Bypassing Activity (FEIBA)

Treatment costs are subsidised by **50% to 75%** for eligible patients

<sup>#</sup>Costs for these treatments are claimable from **MediShield Life** and patients can withdraw from **MediSave**<sup>6</sup>

#### NOT SUBSIDISED

These treatments were not subsidised because they are not commonly used to treat haemophilia in Singapore or their benefits do not justify their costs at the prices offered by the companies.

- ✗ Emicizumab
- ✗ Recombinant factor VIIa (NovoSeven)
- ✗ Recombinant factor IX (Idelvion)
- ✗ Recombinant factor VIII (Afstyla, NovoEight and Nuwiq)
- ✗ Plasma-derived factor IX



### KEY MESSAGES

- **Plasma-derived factor VIII** and **recombinant factor VIII** (Adynovate, Advate and Xyntha) are subsidised for treating haemophilia A
- **Recombinant factor IX** (BeneFIX) is subsidised for treating haemophilia B
- **Factor Eight Inhibitor Bypassing Activity** (FEIBA) is subsidised for treating haemophilia A and B with inhibitors

The choice of treatment depends on different reasons. Talk to your **doctor** to discuss which treatment is suitable for you. You can also speak to a **medical social worker** if you need further financial assistance, or you can reach out to **local patient support groups**<sup>7</sup> if you want to meet people with haemophilia and share your experiences.

#### Sources

1. <https://www.singhealth.com.sg/symptoms-treatments/haemophilia-childhood-illnesses>
2. Report on the Annual Global Survey 2023, World Federation of Haemophilia, 2024
3. <https://www.nuh.com.sg/health-resources/diseases-and-conditions/haemophilia-children>
4. ACE Technology Guidance on *Emicizumab prophylaxis for patients with haemophilia A*, 1 July 2022
5. ACE Technology Guidance on *Recombinant blood products for prophylaxis and management of haemophilia A and B*, 19 December 2022
6. Ministry of Health (MOH), Singapore, *MediShield Life Benefits*, October 2025
7. Haemophilia Society of Singapore (HSS); Promisedland Community Services (PCS)



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