



Treating VWD: what are the options?

Sophie Susen, MD PhD
Lille University Hospital and Inserm
Lille, France



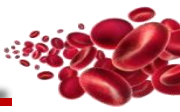


Disclosure of conflict of interest for Sophie Susen

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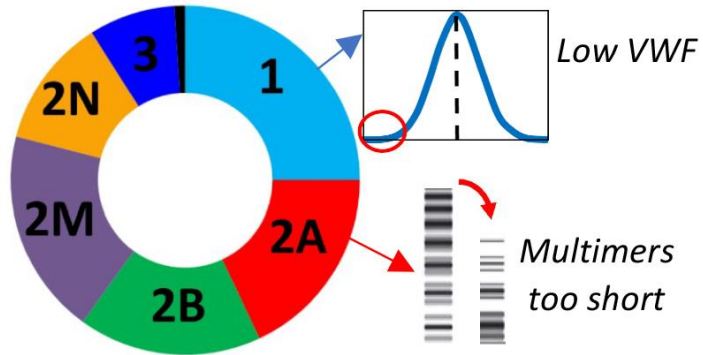


1. Prophylaxis and access to home treatment
2. Desmopressin doesn't work for everyone
3. Hormone treatment options for women
4. Different types, different treatments



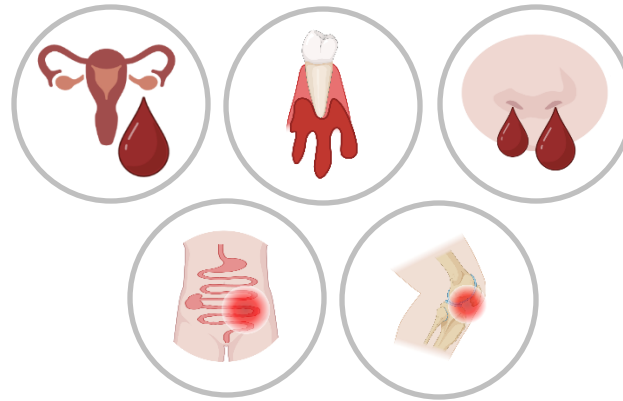
Von Willebrand disease: a heterogenous disease

*A kaleidoscope of
VWD types/sub-types*



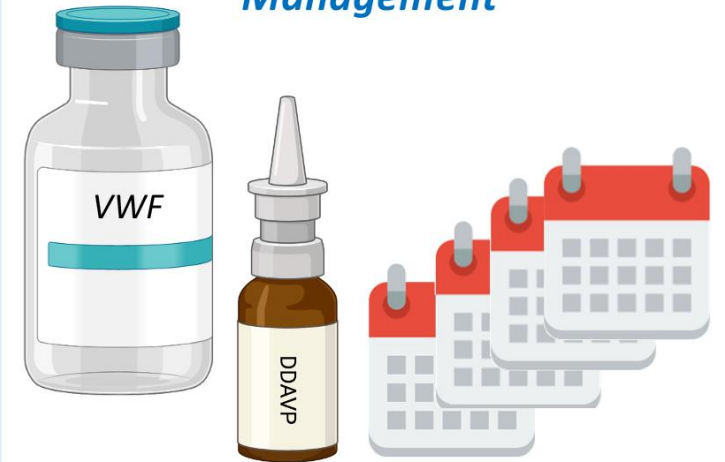
*VWD is a heterogeneous disease
affecting 1 per 10,000 persons*

*A complex relationship between
VWF and bleeding events*



+ Heterogeneous bleeding symptoms

Management

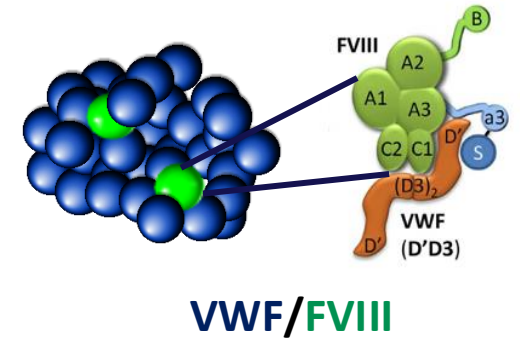
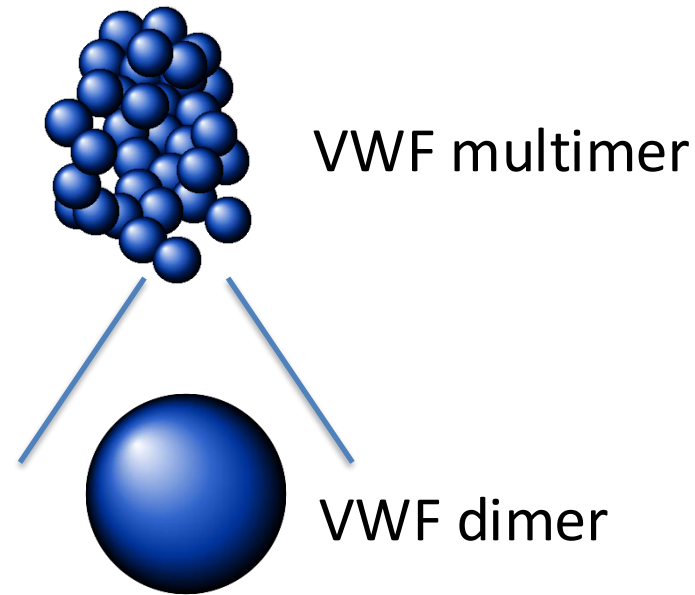
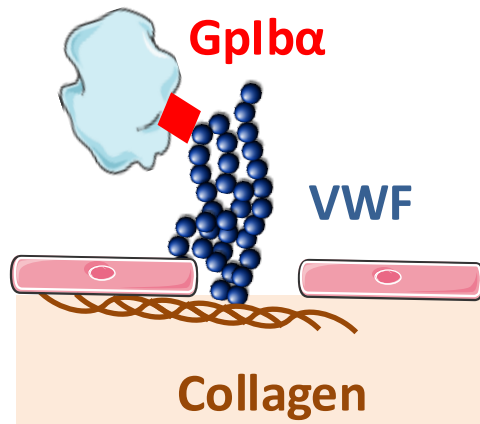


unchanged over 30 years

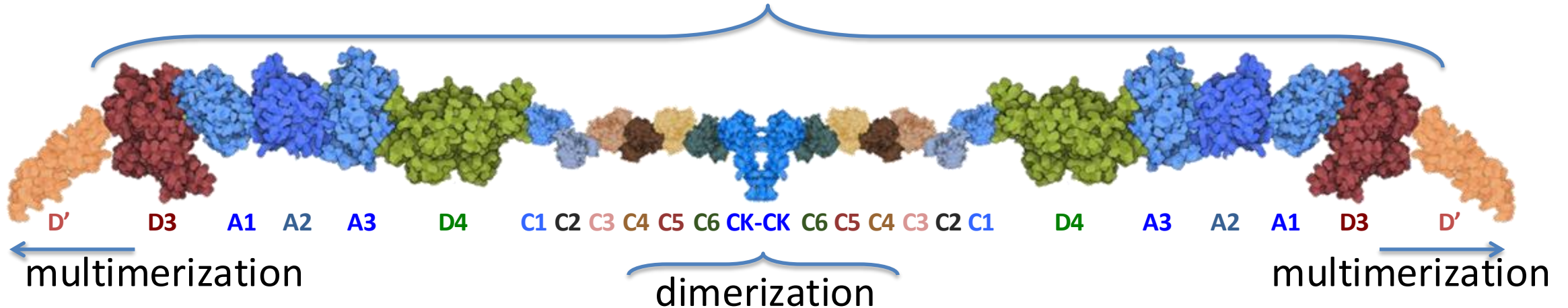
Wide variability in clinical practice, lack of high level of evidence



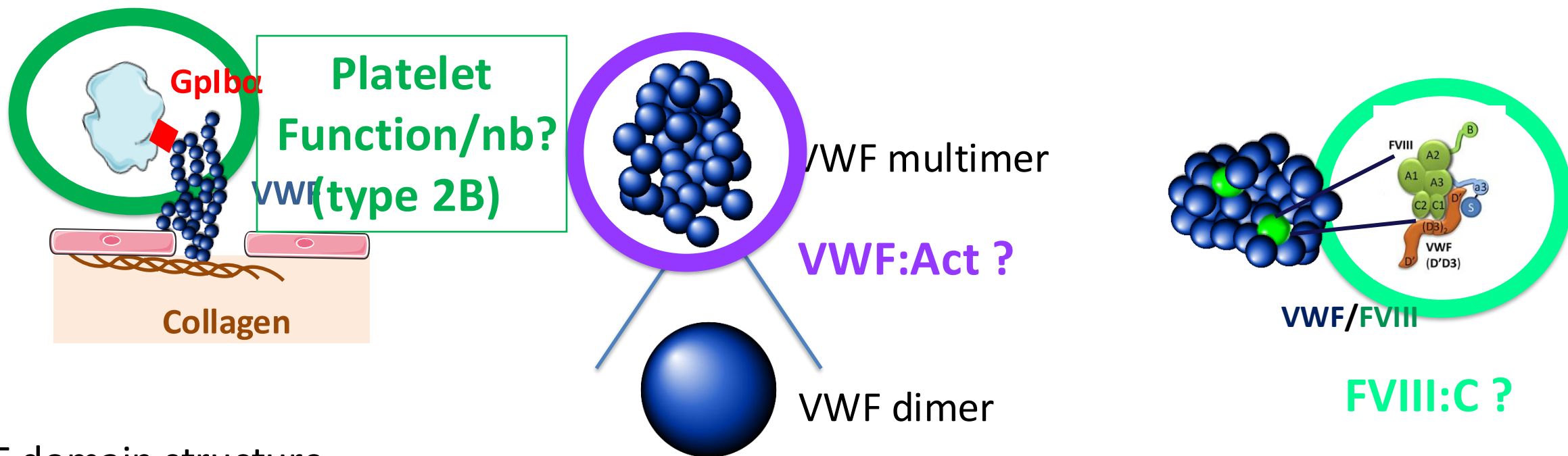
VWF: multimeric and domain structure



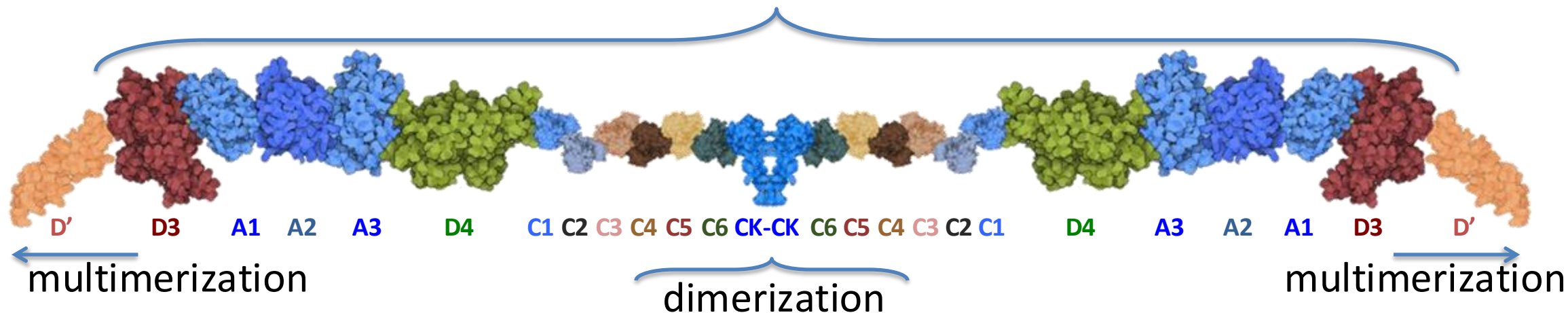
VWF domain structure



VWF: multimeric and domain structure



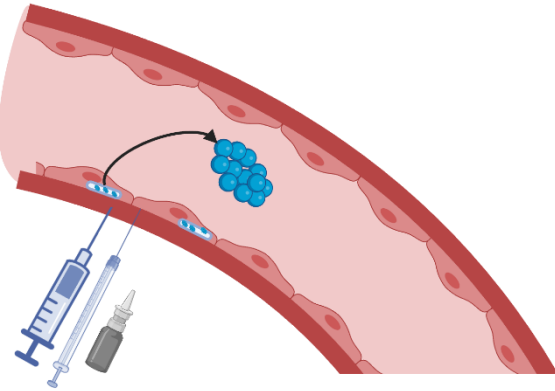
VWF domain structure



Current treatments for VWD

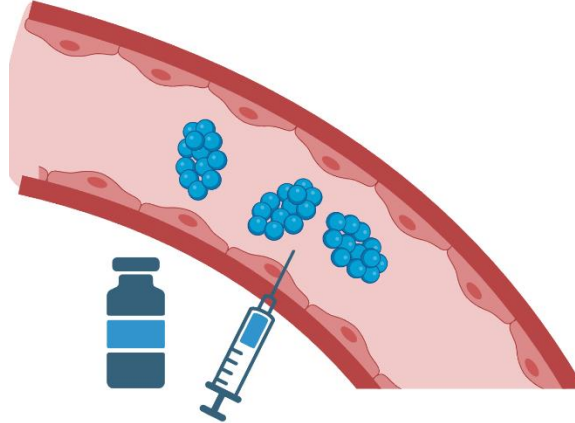
Increasing VWF and FVIII levels

DDAVP



SC or IV or intranasal

VWF products



- pdVWF-FVIII, pdVWF
- rVWF

SC: subcutaneous
IV: intravenous

pdVWF: plasma derived VWF
rVWF: recombinant VWF

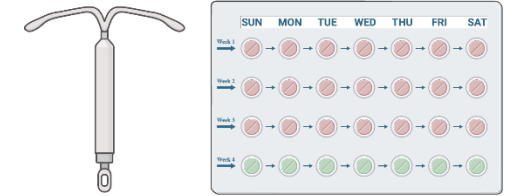
Adjunctive therapies

Antifibrinolytics



Tranexamic acid

Hormonal treatments



Estrogens+progestin
Progestin
Intrauterine device
(Levonorgestrel)

General principles of treatment in VWD

Table 1. Treatment of von Willebrand's Disease.*

Disease Type	Treatment	Alternative or Additional Treatment
Low VWF†	Desmopressin, administered intravenously (0.3 µg per kilogram of body weight), intranasally (total dose, 300 µg [150 µg per nostril]; in patients with body weight <50 kg, only one dose of 150 µg), or subcutaneously (0.3 µg per kilogram)	Alternative or additional treatment: tranexamic acid (1 g, 3 or 4 times daily)
Type 1	Desmopressin, at same doses as above	Additional treatment: tranexamic acid, at same dose as above
Type 2	Desmopressin, at same doses as above, or VWF–factor VIII or VWF concentrate‡	Additional treatment: tranexamic acid, at same dose as above
Type 3	VWF–factor VIII or VWF concentrate	Additional treatment: tranexamic acid, at same dose as above

Who needs a general treatment plan?

Patients with VWD and "low VWF"

- VWF:Act <30% and/or VWF antigen <30%
- VWF:Act between 30 – 50% and bleeding phenotype

The treatment plan should indicate if there is a need to correct FVIII/ access to home treatment

Minor bleeding

Major/life threatening bleeding

Minor surgery

Major surgery



Thresholds=>Treatment option

Treatment of VWD based on bleeding severity or intervention: threshold and duration

Indication or treatment	Target levels for VWF-ristocetin cofactor activity and FVIII activity‡ (IU/dL)	Duration of treatment (days)
Bleeding		
Mild to moderate	Peak, >50–80 on day 1; trough, >30 after day 1	1–3
Severe	Peak, >100 on day 1; trough, >50 after day 1	7–10
Intervention		
Dental extraction	Peak, >50 on day 1	1
Minor surgery	Peak, >50–80 on day 1; trough, >30 after day 1	1–5
Major surgery	Peak, >100 on day 1; trough >50 after day 1	7–10
Delivery	Peak >100 on day 1; trough, >50 after day 1	3–4

ASH/ISTH/WFH Guidelines

Major surgery

Recommendation 4a: Suggest target both FVIII and VWF:Ac of >0.50 IU/ml for at least 3 days

Recommendation 4b: Suggest against using only FVIII of >0.50 IU/ml for 3 days after surgery

=> *never DDAVP*

Minor surgery

Recommendation 5a: Suggest raising VWF:Ac with desmopressin or concentrate and use tranexamic acid

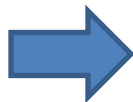
Recommendation 5b: Suggest giving tranexamic acid for patients with type 1 VWD with baseline VWF activity levels of 0.30 IU/mL and a mild bleeding phenotype undergoing minor mucosal procedures

National Emergency Card for all rare diseases adapted for VWD

<p>Personnes à prévenir en priorité</p> <p>Mme/M. _____ Tél : _____</p> <p>Mme/M. _____ Tél : _____</p> <p>Contacts médicaux</p> <p>Médecin _____ Tél : _____</p> <p>Suivi(e) par le centre de : _____</p> <p>Tél : _____ (Jour ouvrable) Tél : _____ (Nuit/fériés)</p> <p>Téléphone médical en cas d'urgence: _____</p> <p> Plus d'informations sur le site www.mhemo.fr (situation d'urgence) et www.orpha.net (Maladie de Willebrand/urgence)</p> <p>   </p>	<p> maladies rares</p> <p>CARTE D'URGENCE Emergency card</p> <p>Maladie de Willebrand</p> <p>Photo</p> <p>Nom : _____</p> <p>Prénom : _____</p> <p>Date de naissance : _____</p> <p> Risque hémorragique, prise en charge prioritaire : administrer un traitement spécifique en cas d'hémorragie ou d'intervention chirurgicale</p>
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<p>Informations individuelles sur la maladie</p> <p>Type de maladie de Willebrand :</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Type 1 (déficit quantitatif partiel) : <input type="checkbox"/> Forme sévère <input type="checkbox"/> Forme modérée</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Type 2 (déficit qualitatif) : <input type="checkbox"/> Type 2A <input type="checkbox"/> Type 2B <input type="checkbox"/> Type 2M <input type="checkbox"/> Type 2N</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Type 3 (déficit quantitatif total) <input type="checkbox"/> Type indéterminé</p> <p>Caractéristique biologique : VWF : Act (Activité fonctionnelle) : _____ %</p> <p>VWF Ag (Antigène) : _____ % FVIII : _____ %</p> <p>Plaquettes : _____ giga/L</p> <p>Pour le type 3 inhibiteur anti-VWF : <input type="checkbox"/> OUI <input type="checkbox"/> NON</p> <p>Test à la desmopressine : Bon répondeur <input type="checkbox"/> OUI <input type="checkbox"/> NON</p> <p>Médicament habituel de la maladie (traitement substitutif et posologie en UI/kg de poids corporel)</p> <p>_____</p> <p>Autres informations médicales utiles</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>RECOMMANDATIONS EN CAS D'URGENCE</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Le risque de survenue d'hémorragie grave, en particulier d'hémorragies cérébrales ou des muqueuses, dépend de l'importance du déficit2. Pour toute question relative à la prise en charge, contacter le centre de suivi habituel du porteur de cette carte (voir la page des coordonnées)3. Corriger la coagulation en urgence en cas d'hémorragie ou de traumatisme important et avant toute intervention chirurgicale ou geste invasif (ponctions, suture...) par injection de concentré de facteur Willebrand ou par Desmopressine si bon répondeur.5. La prise d'aspirine ou d'anti-inflammatoire non-stéroïdien (AINS) est contre-indiquée.6. Ecouter le patient : il connaît sa maladie, son traitement et son centre de suivi
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Information
on treatment




maladies rares

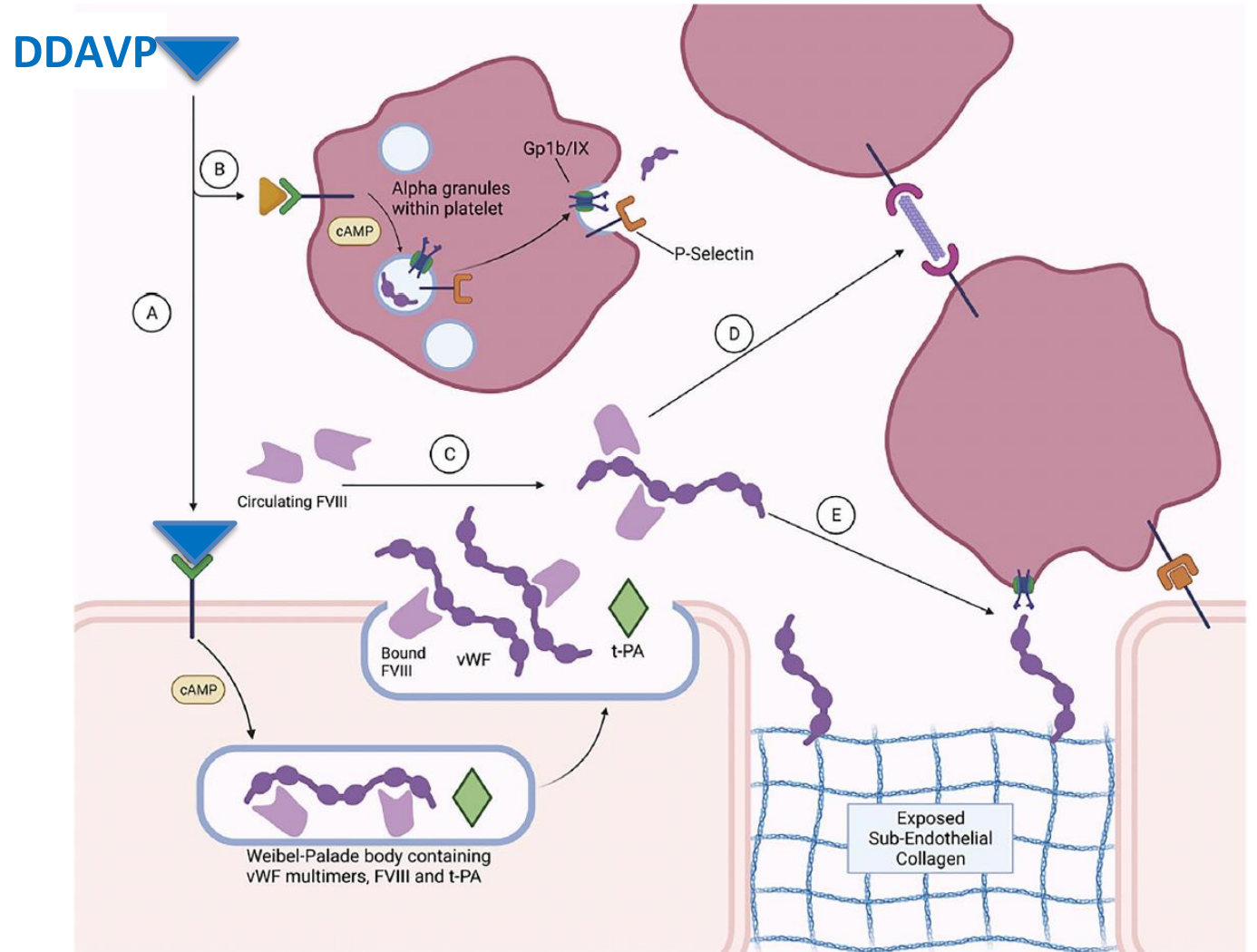
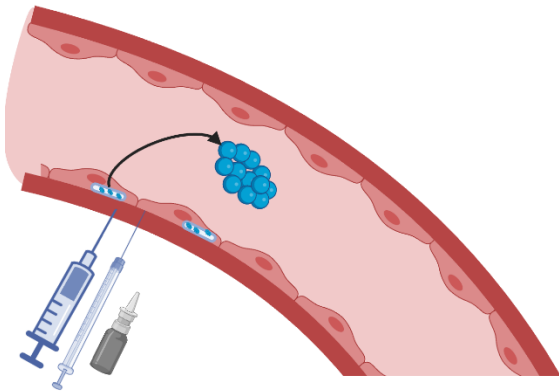


**DIRECTION
GÉNÉRALE
DE L'OFFRE
DE SOINS**

Management of VWD with DDAVP

Mechanism of action

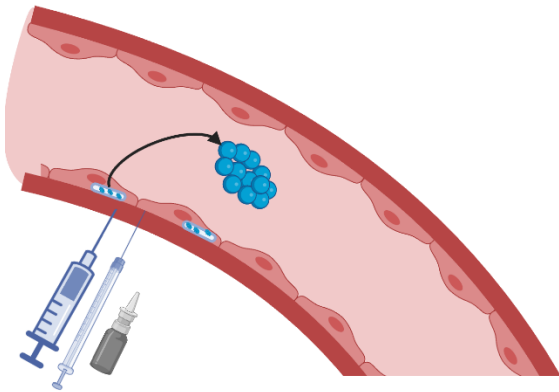
DDAVP



Management of VWD with DDAVP

Mechanism of action

DDAVP

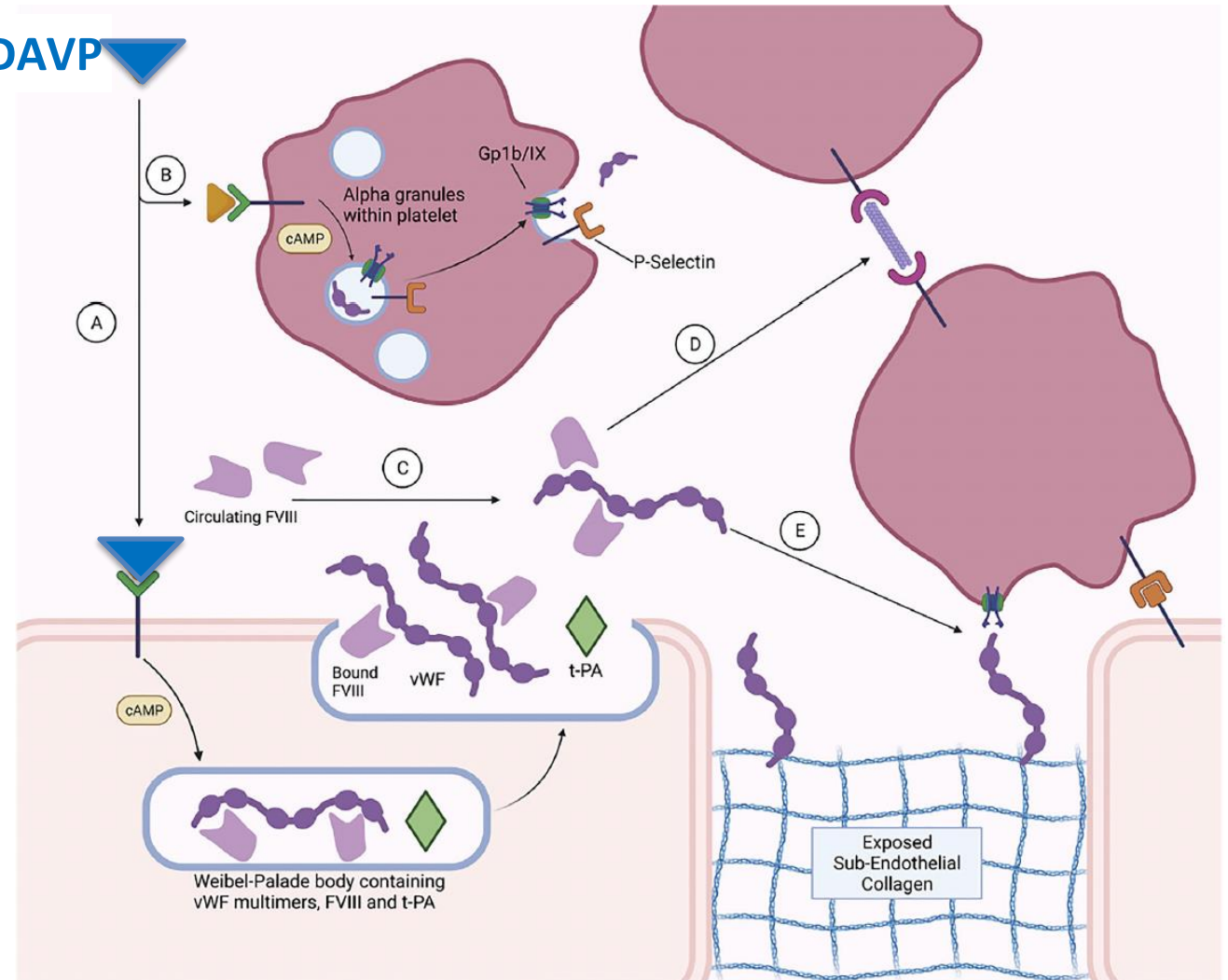


- ✓ Short term effect
- ✓ Tachyphylaxis
- ✓ Variable inter-patient response

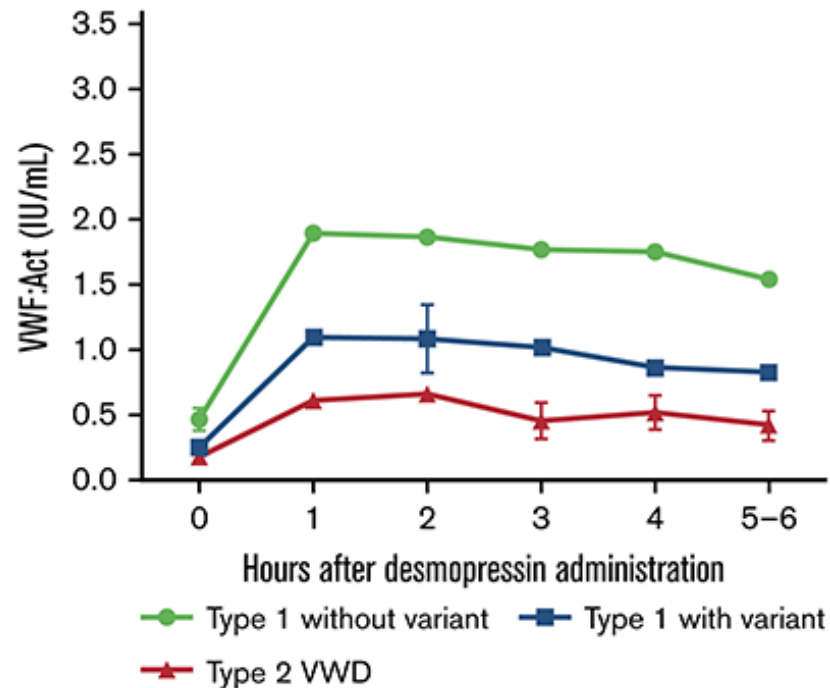
=> need for test dose

VWF:Ag, VWF:Act, FVIII:C, platelets at 1h (synthesis)
And 4h (clearance) post-injection

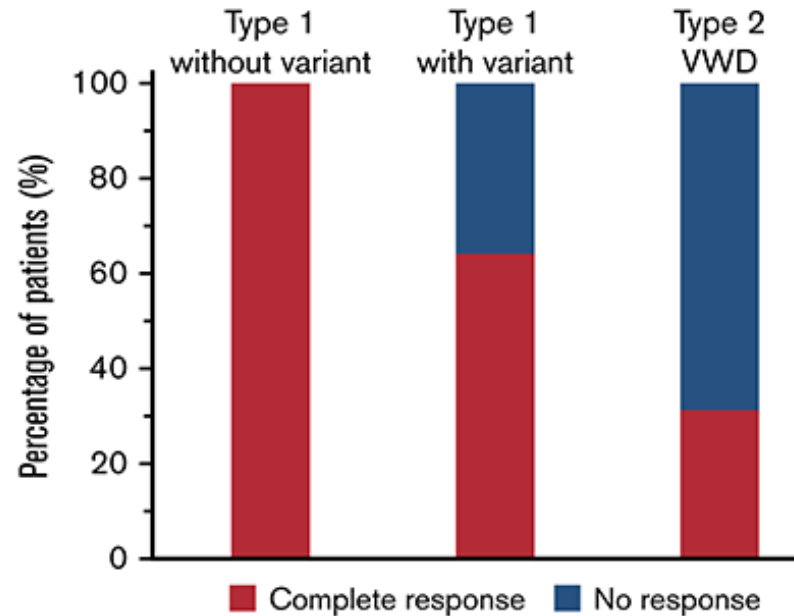
DDAVP



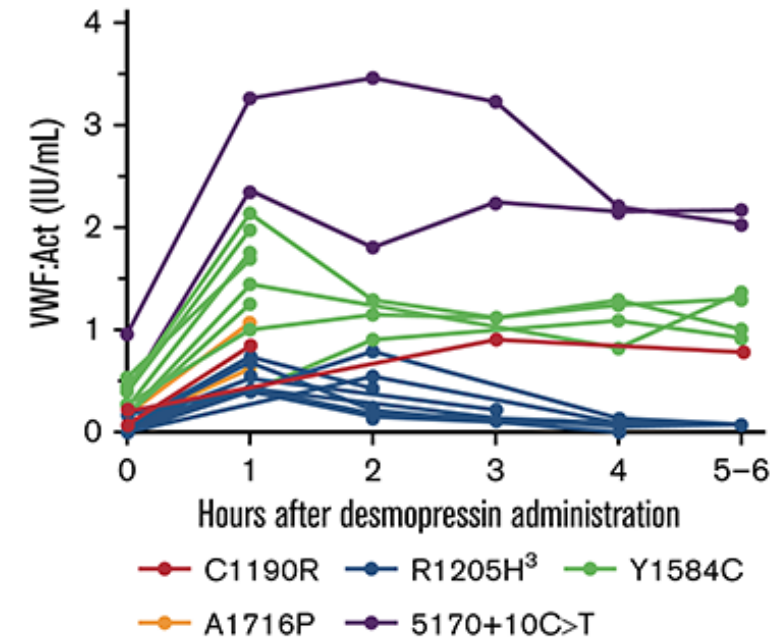
Desmopressin response depends on the presence of genetic variants



There is a clear difference in desmopressin response between patients with type 1 with and without a *VWF* gene variant and patients with type 2 VWD



Patients with type 1 VWD without a variant always have a complete response to desmopressin



The inter-individual variation in desmopressin response is explained by the genetic variant present in patients with type 1 and type 2 VWD

Indications for treatment with DDAVP in VWD

Type of VWD	Indications	Utility
Type 1 vWD ^a	Surgical prophylaxis and acute bleeding episode	Evidence to support use ⁵⁶⁻⁵⁸
Type 2A vWD ^a	Acute bleeding episodes	Generally avoided due to defective multimer formation and release ⁵⁹
Type 2B vWD	Acute bleeding episodes	Contraindicated due to bleeding and thrombocytopenia ⁶⁰
Type 2M vWD ^a	Acute bleeding episodes	Generally avoided due to defective multimer formation and release ^{59,61}
Type 2N vWD ^a	Acute bleeding episodes	Case report level evidence to suggest some benefit ⁶¹

- ✓ *Most useful in VWD type 1*
- ✓ *Contraindicated in 2B,*
- ✓ *No use in Type 3*

Contraindications / restrictions with DDAVP

- ✓ *Active cardiovascular disease*
- ✓ *Seizure disorders*
- ✓ *Patients age < 2 years*
- ✓ *In patients with type 2B VWD is generally contraindicated*

- ✓ *Risk for hyponatremia from free water retention =>oral free water fluid intake should be restricted to prevent hyponatremia*

Patient counseling about desmopressin should include strategies to mitigate risks associated with hyponatremia (eg, free water restriction and education about signs and symptoms of hyponatremia that should lead to prompt medical evaluation) and cardiovascular disease.

What do the guidelines say about DDAVP?

- Recommendation 2a: Suggests performing a trial of desmopressin in patients (mostly type 1 VWD) and VWF <0.30 IU/ml
- Recommendation 2b: Suggests against treating with desmopressin in the absence of a desmopressin trial

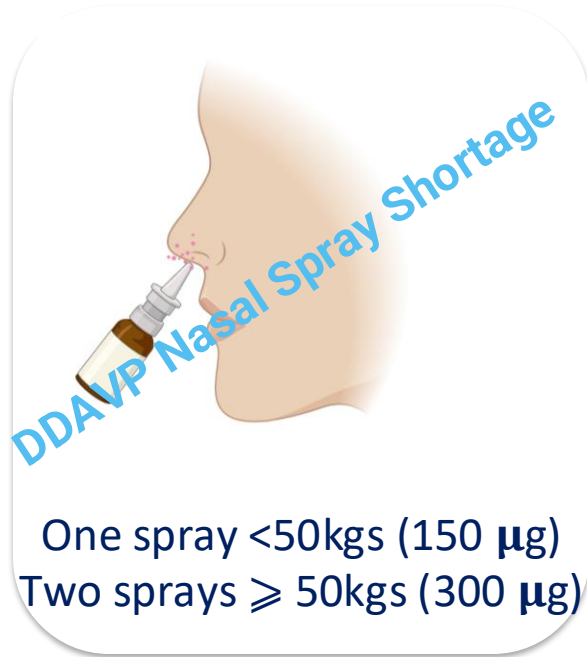
Patients with >0.30 IU/ml can be presumed to be desmopressin responsive.

- *it is reasonable to obtain VWF levels to confirm response after administration*

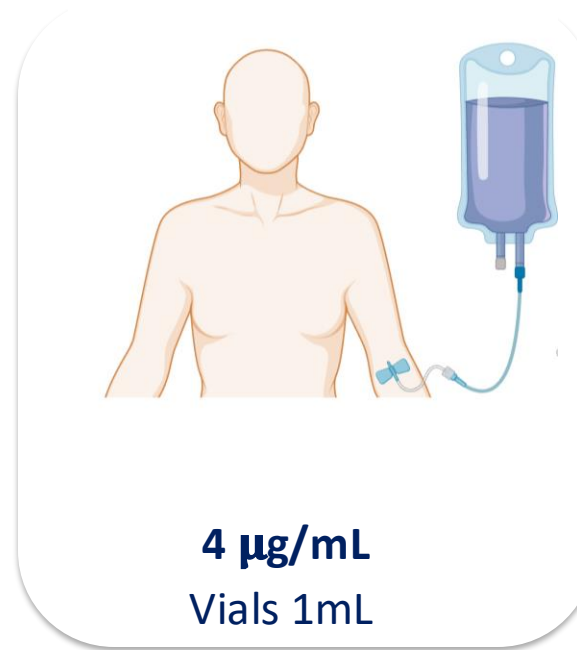
Some type 2 patients respond to desmopressin=> *“a desmopressin trial may be helpful to confirm diagnosis, and desmopressin may still be useful in some instances of mild bleeding for type 2 VWD patients “*

DDAVP: route of administration

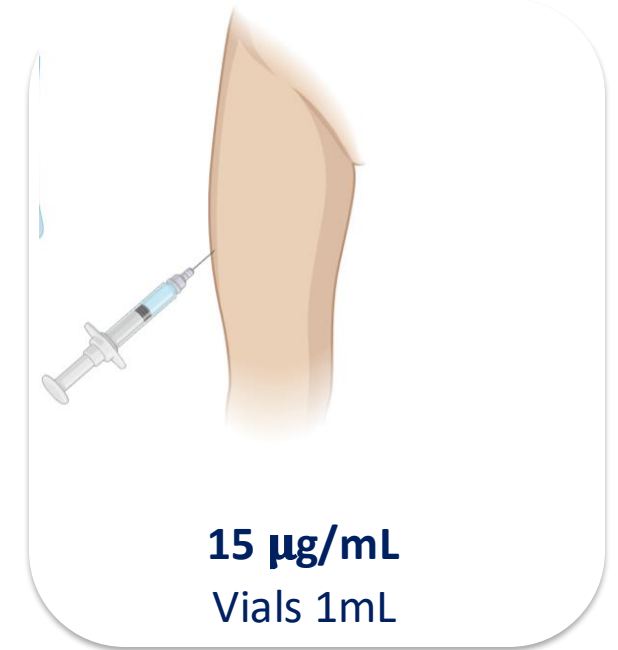
intranasal



intravenous



subcutaneous



60kgs

Two sprays

4,5mL

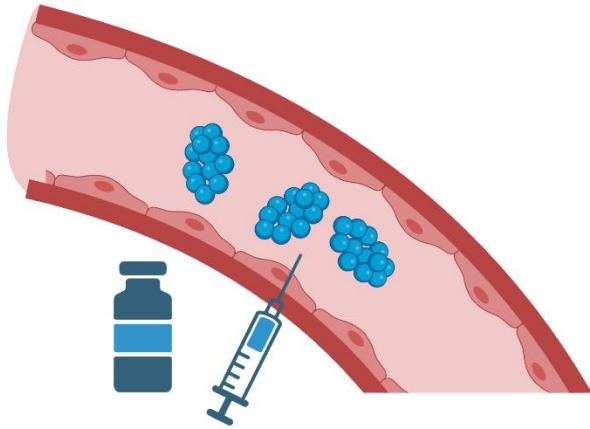
0.2-0.3 µg/kg

1,2mL

= Free water intake <0.75 L/24H

Management of VWD with VWF products

VWF products



- › pdVWF-FVIII, pdVWF
- › rVWF

On demand, bleeding events

Short-term prophylaxis , surgery

Long term prophylaxis

Hemarthrosis

Gastro intestinal bleeding

Epistaxis

Menorrhagia

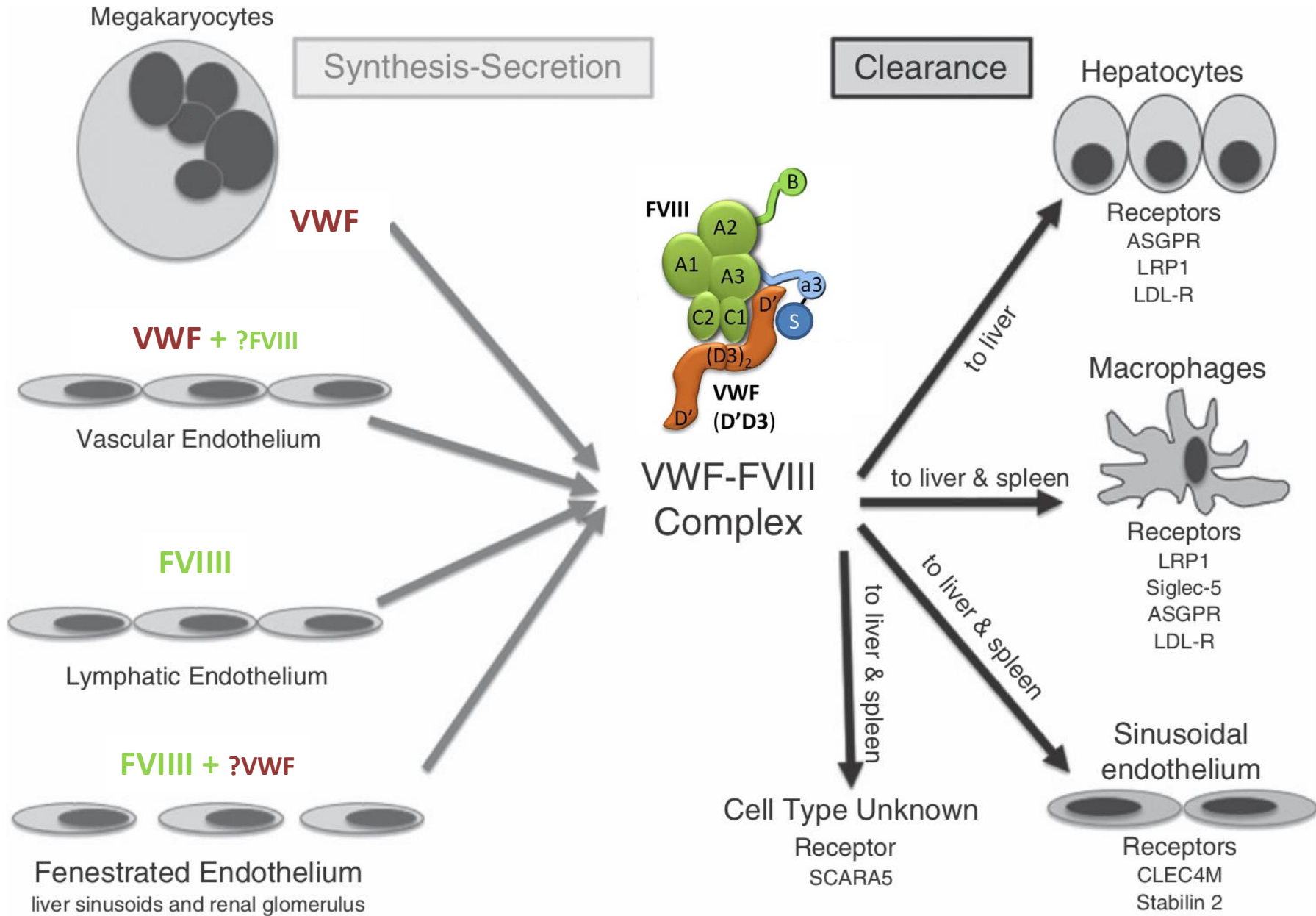
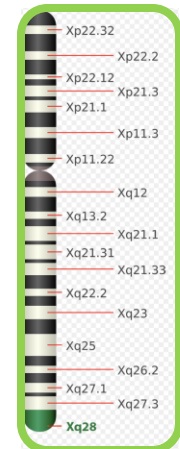
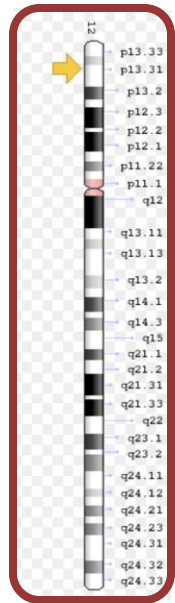
Factor replacement therapies for VWF

	Plasma-derived VWF						Recombinant VWF
	RCo/FVIII ≤ 1	RCo/FVIII > 1 et <10				RCo/FVIII ≥ 10	RCo/FVIII 0 FVIII
	Wilate/ Eqwilate	Alphanate	Fanhdi	Voncento/ Biostate	HumateP/ Haemate P	Wilfactin/ Willfact	Vonvendi/ Veyvondi
$t_{1/2}$ (VWF:RCo),h	15.8	7.67	14.4	13.7	11	12.4	21.9
RCo/FVIII	0,8-1,0	0.8-1.2	1.29-1.6	2.4	2.04-2.88	>10	0 FVIII
ULM	absent	absent	absent	absent	absent	absent	present

Factor replacement therapies for VWF

Products are different => do we need to personalize treatment ?

	Plasma-derived VWF						Recombinant VWF
	RCo/FVIII ≤ 1	RCo/FVIII > 1 et <10				RCo/FVIII ≥ 10	RCo/FVIII 0 FVIII
	Wilate/ Eqwilate	Alphanate	Fanhdi	Voncento/ Biostate	HumateP/ Haemate P	Wilfactin/ Willfact	Vonvendi/ Veyvondi
$t_{1/2}$ (VWF:RCo),h	15.8	7.67	14.4	13.7	11	12.4	21.9
RCo/FVIII	0,8-1,0	0.8-1.2	1.29-1.6	2.4	2.04-2.88	>10	0 FVIII
ULM	absent	absent	absent	absent	absent	absent	present

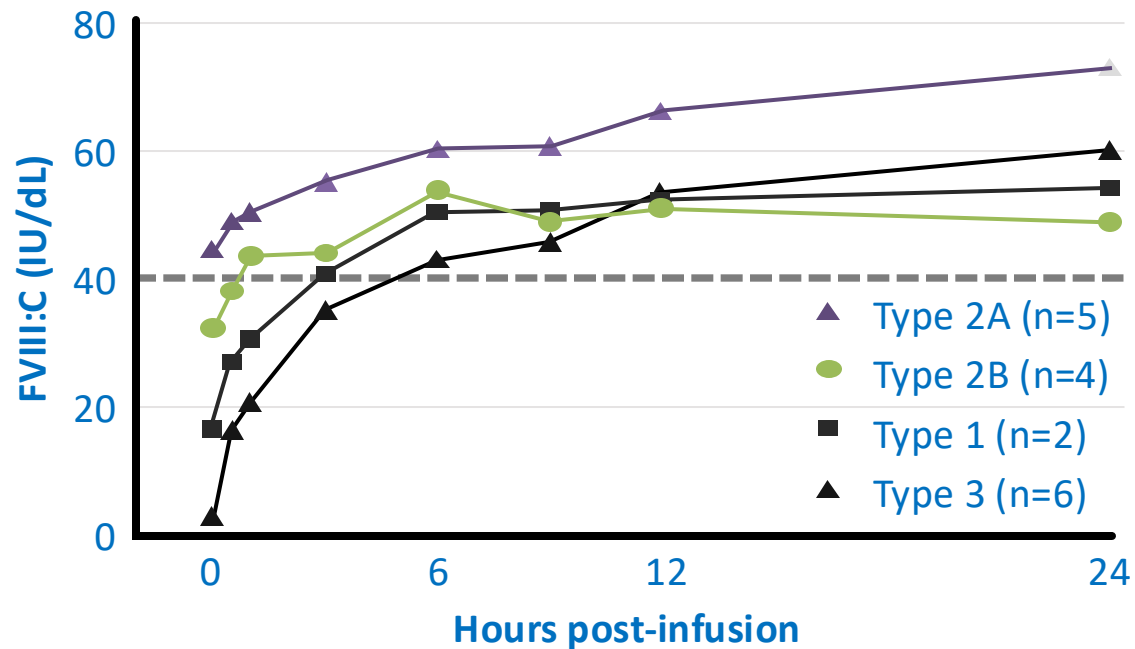


Pure VWF (rVWF or pdVWF) can be used in adult patients with VWD to restore levels of FVIII

Clinical PK trial experience with high purity plasma derived VWF concentrate in surgery

FVIII:C levels up to 24 h post infusion

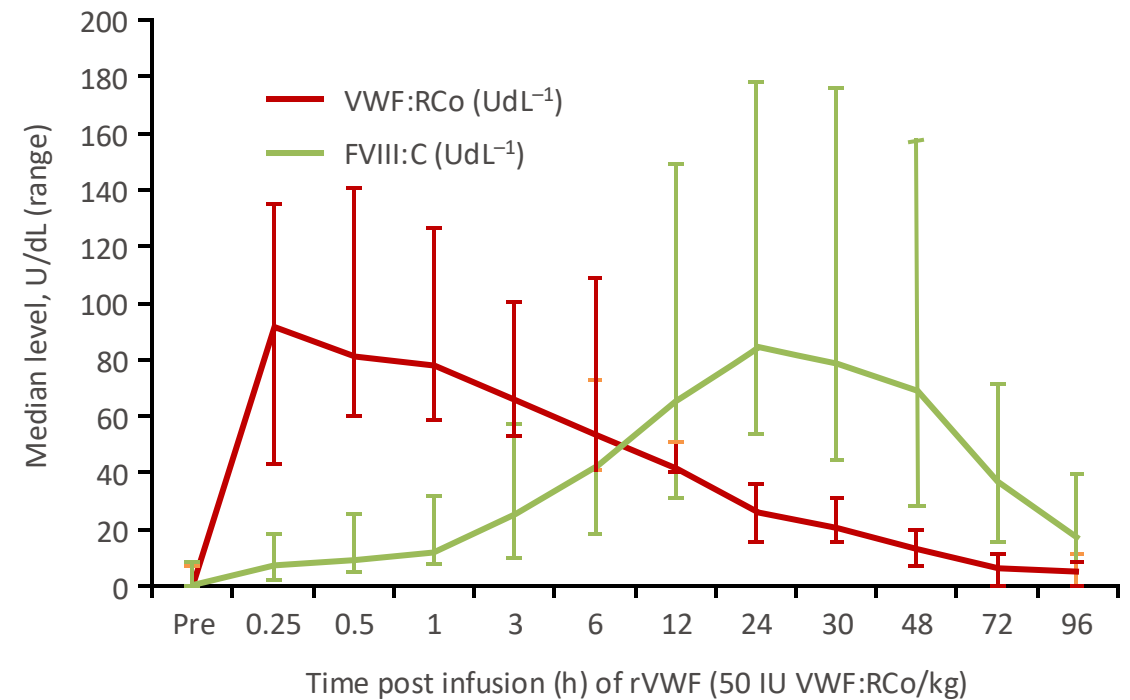
pd VWF



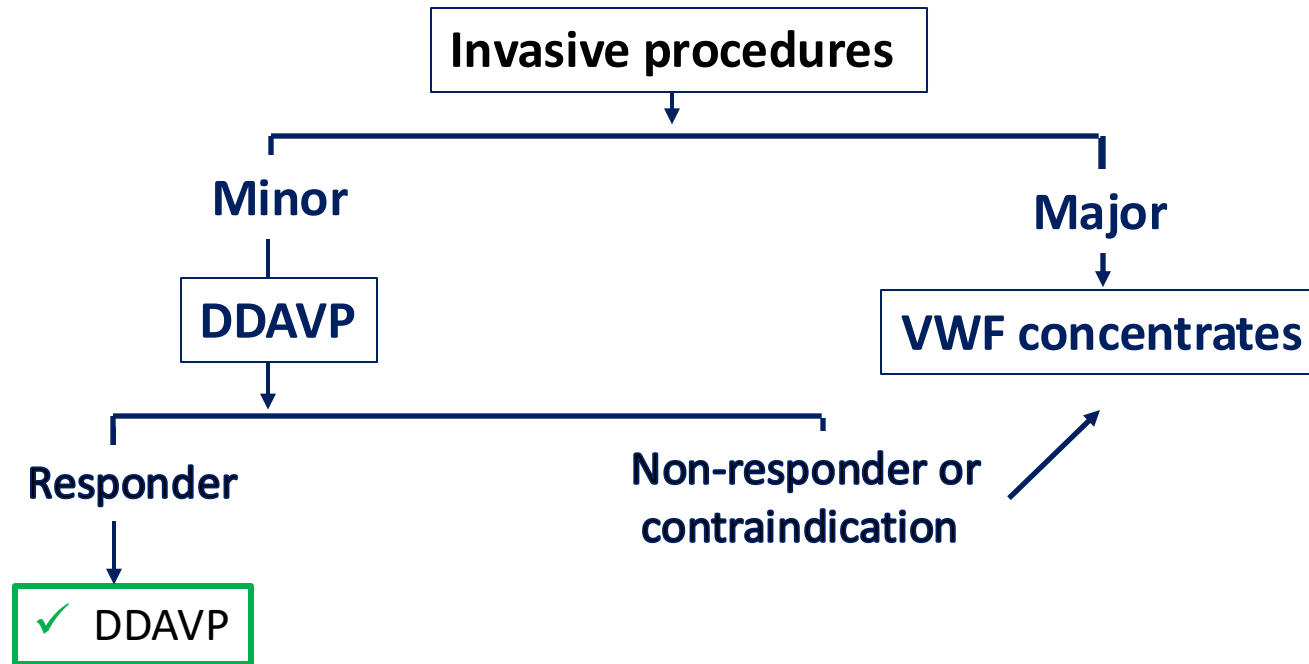
Goudemand J, et al. J Thromb Haemostas 2005;3:2219–27

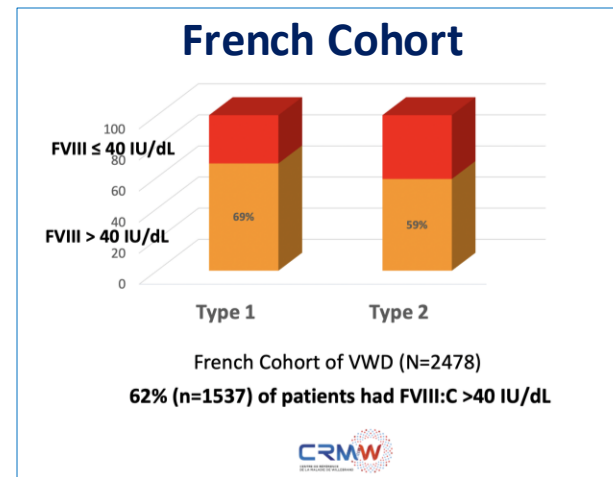
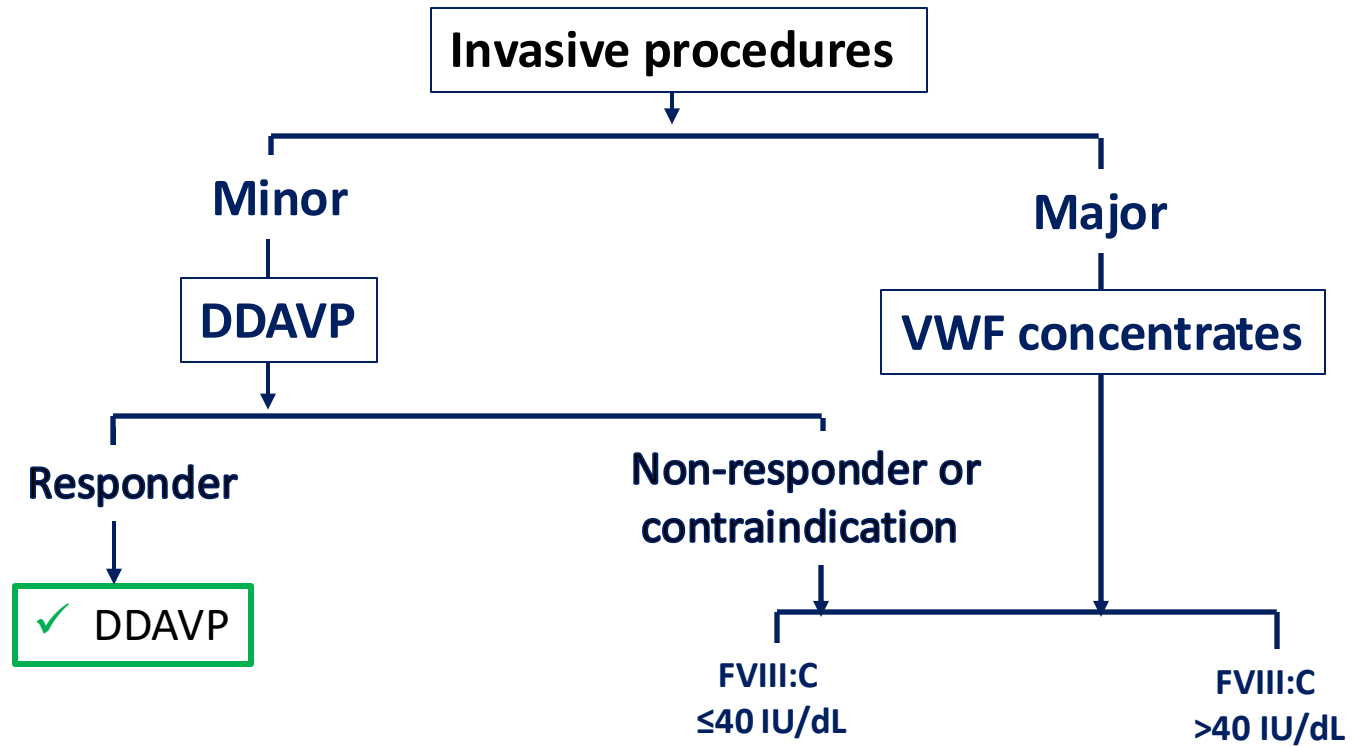
Endogenous FVIII levels increased above 40% within 6 hours in the majority of VWD patients following rVWF infusion

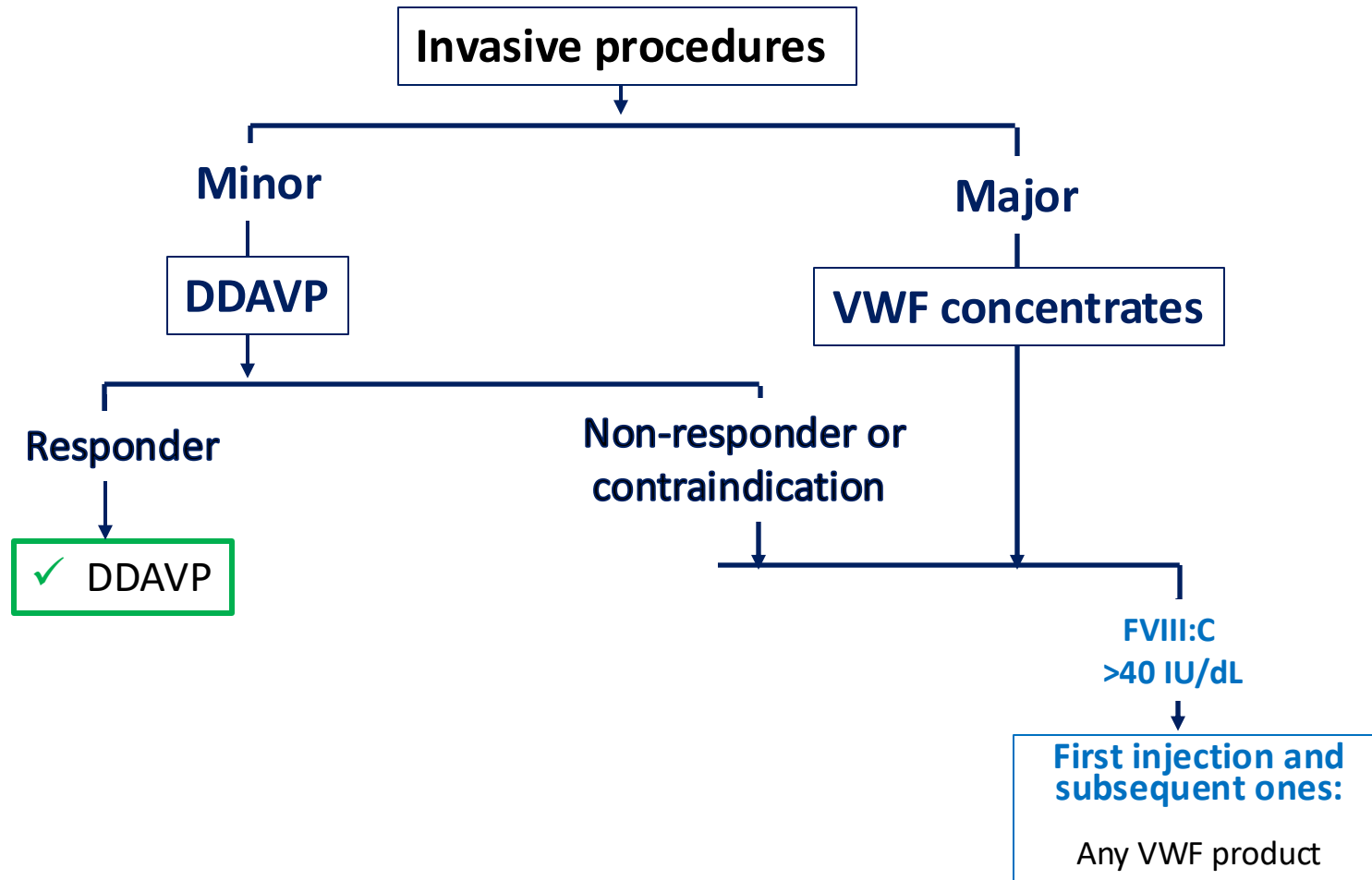
r VWF

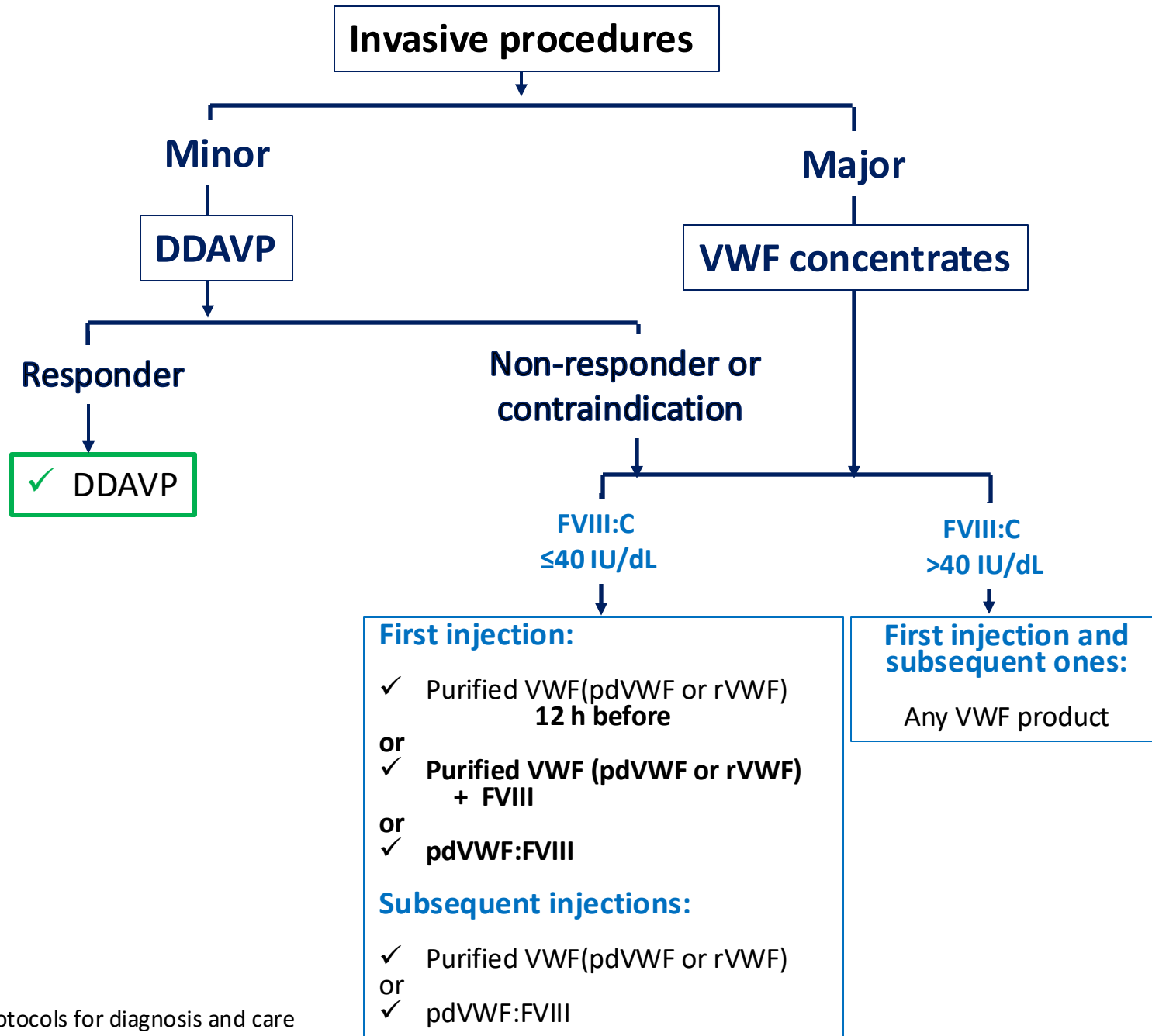


Gill JC, et al. Blood. 2015; 126(17):2038-2046





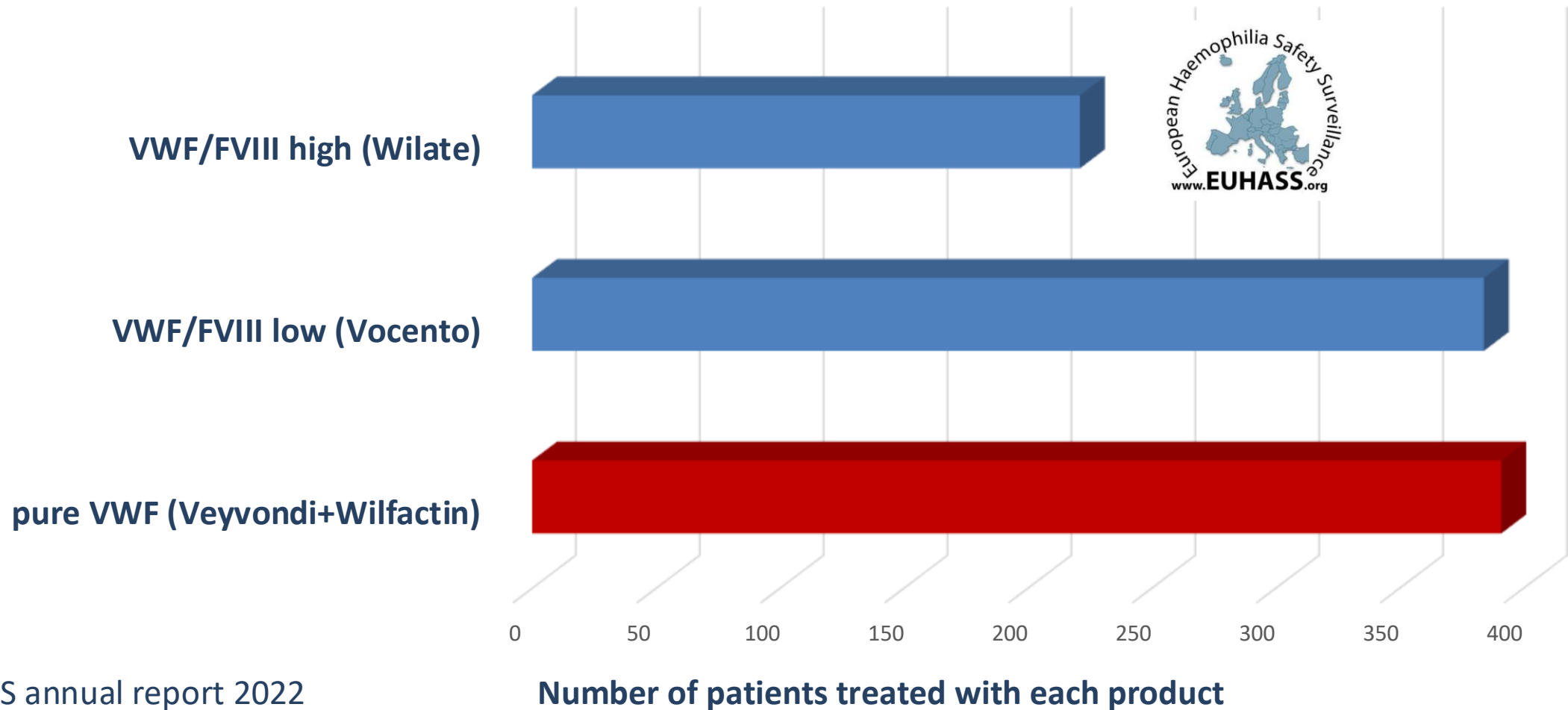




Products used: Data from EUHASS Registry

From 95 centres (reports)

1 January 2022 – 31 December 2022



Long Term Prophylaxis (LTP) in VWD: definition

- Home-infusion of VWF product on a regular basis
- At least once /week
- To prevent bleeding
- 45 weeks or more/year
- Or on a regular basis during menstrual periods to reduce menorrhagia

Main criteria to consider LTP in VWD



Joint Bleed

2 or more
spontaneous
bleeds in the
same joint

3 or more in
different joints

within the last 6 months



Epistaxis

3 or more bleeding
episodes requiring VWF
or transfusion within the
last 6 months



Gastro-intestinal bleeding

2 or more severe GIB
requiring VWF or
transfusion or with drop
in hemoglobin



Menorrhagia

PBAC>185 or
requirement of VWF
/transfusion within the
past year

Proposed definition for prophylaxis

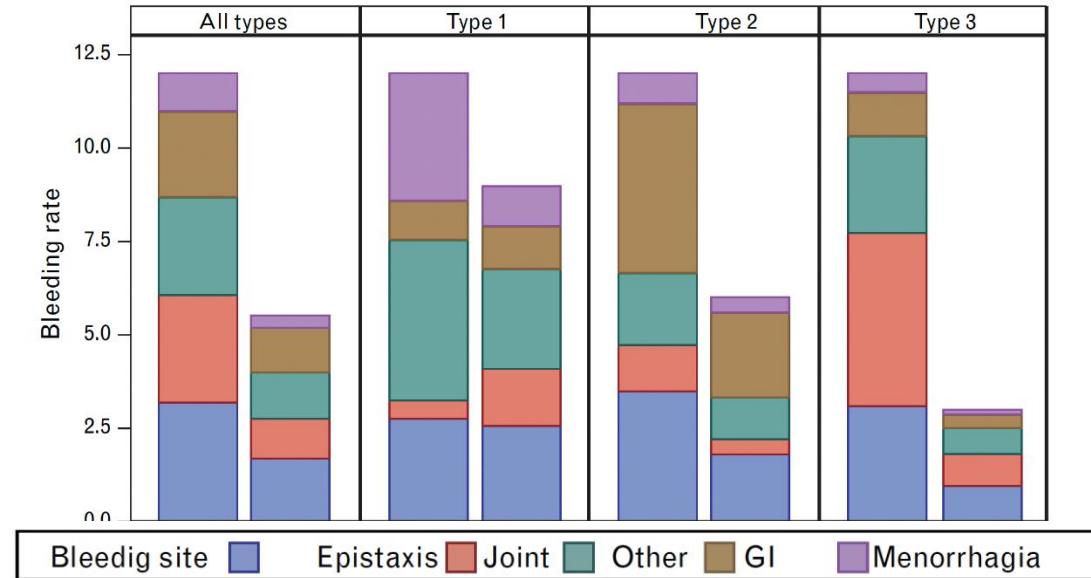
Prophylaxis in VWD (long-term prophylaxis) is a period of *at least 3 to 6 months of treatment*

consisting of *VWF concentrate administered at least once weekly,*

or for women with HMB, use of VWF concentrate administered *at least once per menstrual cycle*

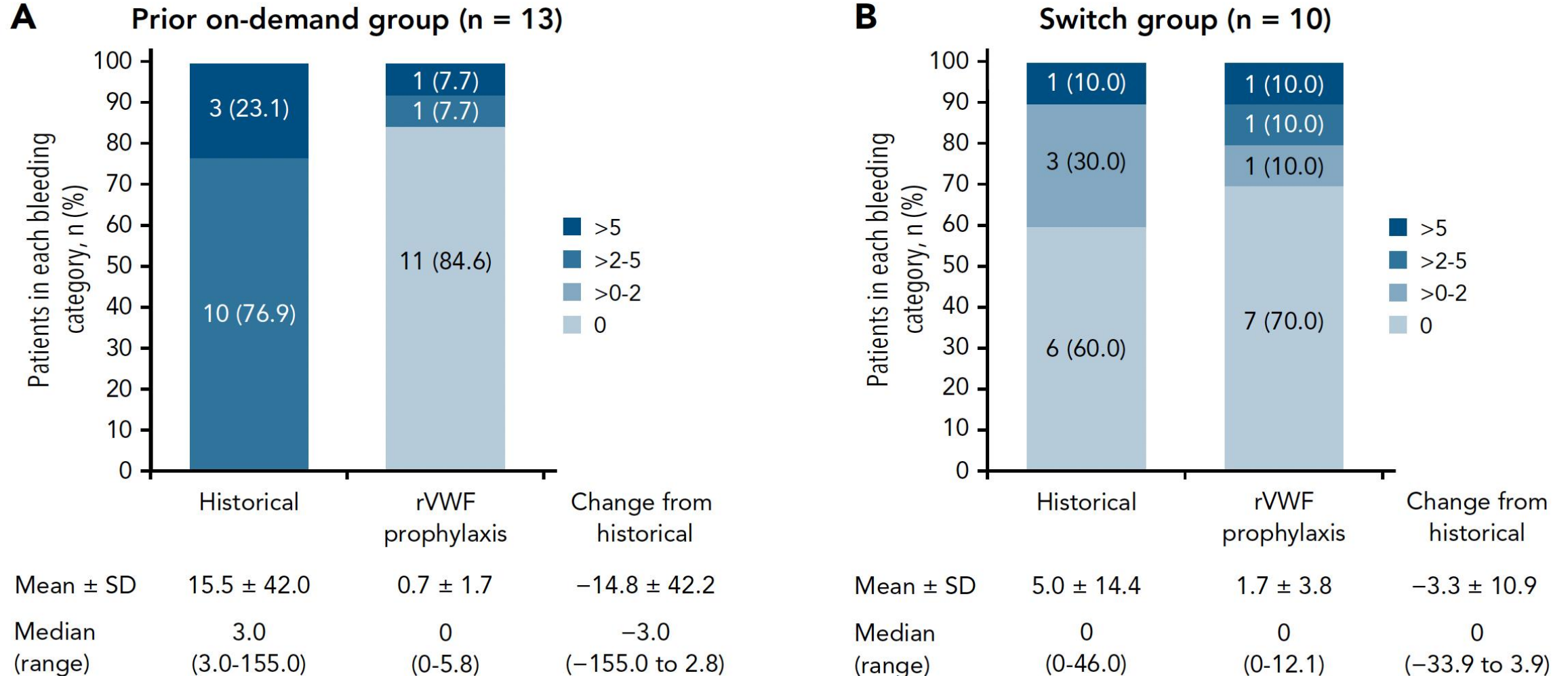
Improvement of bleeding with prophylaxis according to the bleeding-type indication

ABRs of 80 patients with VWD before and during prophylaxis (2008–2013)



Indication	n	Prior to prophylaxis, median (IQR)	During prophylaxis, median (IQR)	Median rate change (IQR)	Median percent change (IQR)
Epistaxis	28	11.1 (6–48)	3.8 (0.21–16.8)	–6.1 (–42 to –1.5)	–86.7 (–95.5 to –49.8)
GI bleeding	18	9.3 (6–21.6)	6 (3.6–7.1)	–3.0 (–6 to 0)	–44.3 (–72.2 to 0)
Joint bleeding	25	11.9 (6–18)	0.8 (0–3.2)	–8.5 (–12 to –4.2)	–86.9 (–100 to –52.5)
Menorrhagia	9	9.6 (8.4–12)	0 (0–0.4)	–9 (–9.3 to –6)	–100 (–100 to –95.8)

Reduction of bleeding with rVWF prophylaxis



What do we know so far about LTP in VWD?

- Most common types are Type 3 (mainly) and Type 2
- Reason for initiating prophylaxis
 - Gastrointestinal bleeding and joint bleeding in adults
 - Epistaxis and joint bleeding in children
- Secondary long-term prophylaxis is efficacious in reducing bleeding in VWD (low certainty evidence)
- Efficacy depends on bleeding symptoms (joint bleeding >>>>GI bleeding)
- All products have been used
- Few data

Abshire T et al. Haemophilia 2013

Holm E et al. Blood Coagul Fibrinolysis 2015

Abshire T et al. J Thromb Haemost 2015

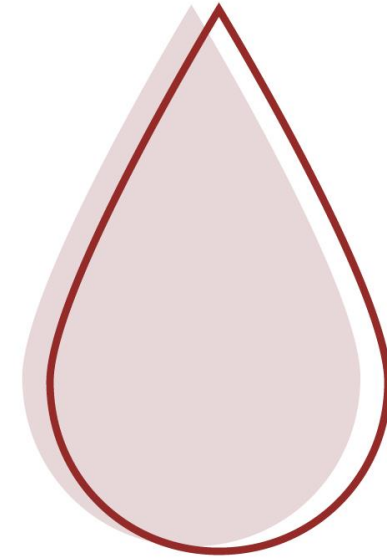
Peyvandi F et al. Blood Transfus 2019

Leebeek F et al. Blood 2022

Systematic review El Alayli A et al. Haemophilia 2022



ASH ISTH NHF WFH Guideline Recommendations for Management of von Willebrand Disease (VWD)



Recommendation 1

In patients with VWD with a history of severe and frequent bleeds, the guideline panel *suggests* using long-term prophylaxis rather than no prophylaxis (conditional recommendation based on low certainty in the evidence of effects ⊕⊕○○).

+ need for prophylaxis periodically assessed

<https://doi.org/10.1182/bloodadvances.2020003264>

Prevalence of Heavy Menstrual Bleeding among women with VWD

	Study Population	Prevalence of HMB
Ragni et al., 2016 [23]	1321 women with VWD from 20 US Hemophilia Treatment Centers, 18–45 years old, seen during 2012–2014.	Heavy menstrual bleeding reported by 816 (61.8%) women with VWD.
Sanders et al., 2014 [24]	664 adults with Von Willebrand disease, as compared with 500 healthy persons, in the Willebrand in the Netherlands (WiN) study.	More than 80% of women with VWD experienced menorrhagia.
de Wee et al., 2011 [25]	423 women aged ≥ 16 years old with moderate and severe VWD in the Netherlands.	Menorrhagia, defined as occurrence of ≥ 2 menorrhagia symptoms, was reported by 81%.
Kadir et al., 1998 [26]	150 women referred for investigation of menorrhagia whose pelvis was normal on clinical examination and who had an estimated menstrual blood loss of more than 80 mL.	13% VWD prevalence. Menorrhagia since menarche 65% of 20 women with Von Willebrand disease compared with 8,9% of 123 women without a bleeding disorder.
Woods et al., 2001 [27]	1885 patients of all ages with VWD—1142 females—from a reference center in Argentina.	47% of women more than 13 years old.

Prevalence of Heavy Menstrual Bleeding among women with VWD

~50 to 100%



- *Depression*
- *Anxiety*

Ragni et al., 20

Sanders et al., 2

de Wee et al., 2

Kadir et al., 19

Woods et al., 2

of HMB

ing reported by 816
with VWD.

omen with VWD
enorrhagia.

is occurrence of ≥ 2
was reported by 81%.

Menorrhagia since
women with Von
pared with 8,9% of
bleeding disorder.

than 13 years old.

Heavy menstrual bleeding

- *Recommendation 6a:*

The panel **suggests in women who do not wish to conceive** using either hormonal therapy (such as use combined oral contraceptive or levonorgestrel intrauterine device) or tranexamic acid rather than desmopressin

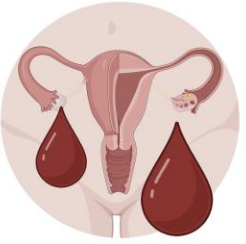
- *Recommendation 6b:*

The panel **suggests in women who wish to conceive** using tranexamic acid over desmopressin



- *Good practice statement*

The panel encourages the **development of multidisciplinary clinics** in which the gynecologists and hematologists see the patients jointly

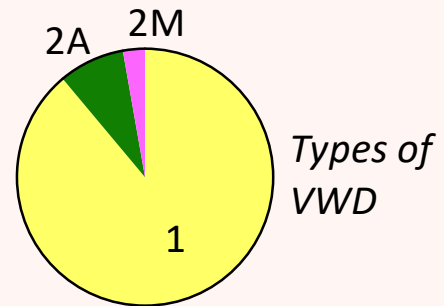
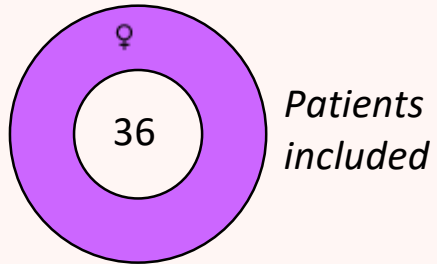
Heavy menstrual bleeding : New data



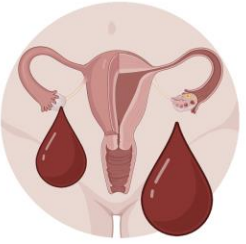
VWDMin study – patients with mild to moderate VWD and HMB

STUDY	 <i>rVWF</i> IV D1 (D2)	&	 <i>Tranexamic acid (TXA) 1300mg</i> D1-to-D5
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<i>Groupe 1:</i>	<i>cycles 1-2</i>	<i>cycles 3-4</i>
<i>Groupe 2:</i>	<i>cycles 3-4</i>	<i>cycles 1-2</i>





Heavy menstrual bleeding : New data

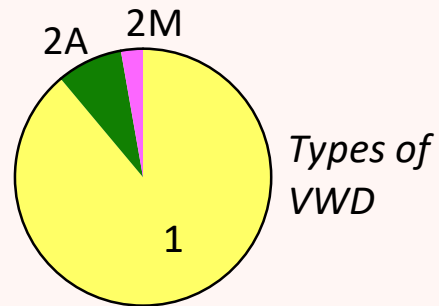
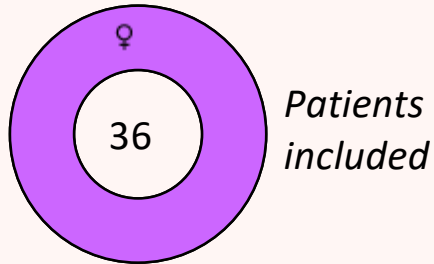


VWDMin study – patients with mild to moderate VWD and HMB

STUDY

 & 
rVWF IV D1 (D2) Tranexamic acid (TXA) 1300mg D1-to-D5

Groupe 1: cycles 1-2 cycles 3-4
Groupe 2: cycles 3-4 cycles 1-2



Paramètre évalués:

RESULTS

- **Correction of PBAC to normal range 0%**
- **Modest decrease in PBAC with TXA vs rVWF**
- **= QOL**
- **TXA cheaper**

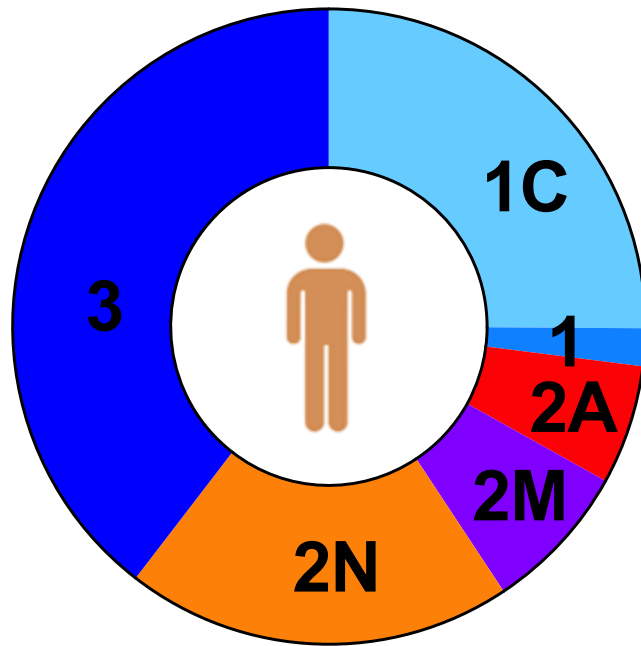


VWF is not superior to tranexamic acid in reducing heavy menstrual bleeding in patients with mild or moderate VWD

=> shared decision on the best treatment option

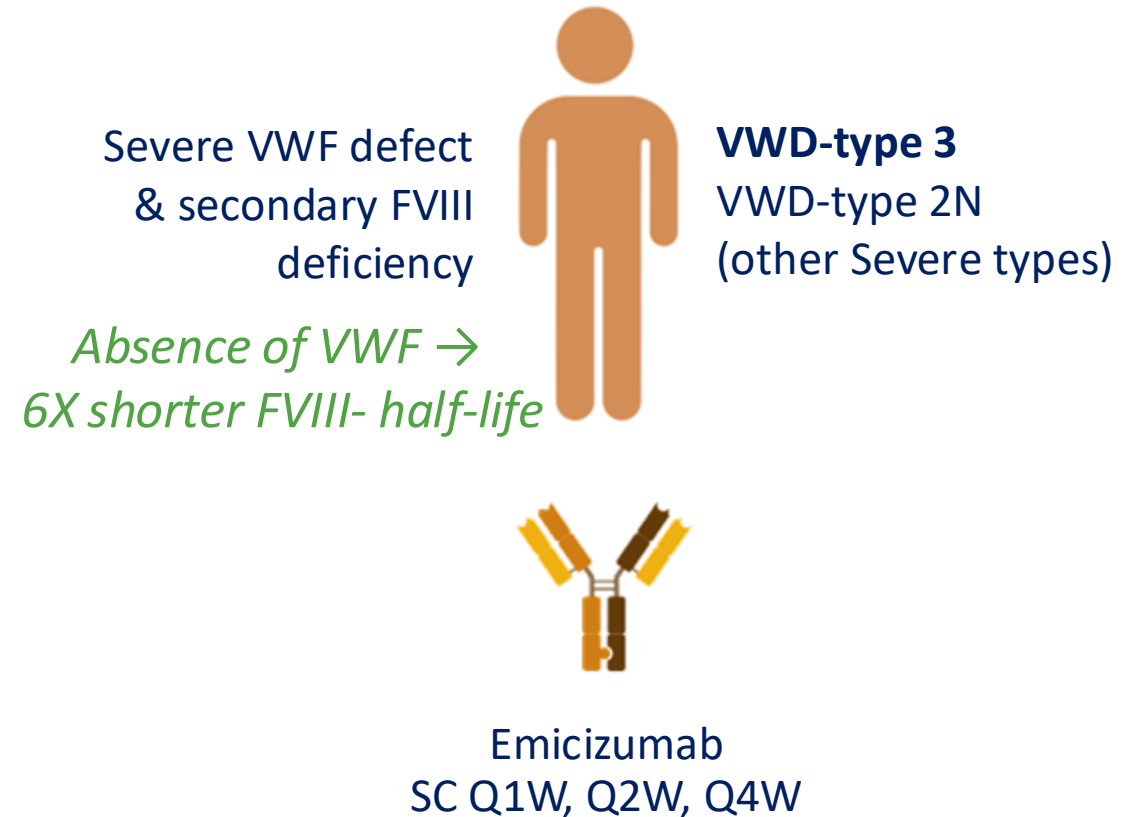
New therapeutic options for VWD

- FVIII:C \leq 15IU/dL



≈ 8% of patients in the French cohort of VWD

- To restore FVIII procoagulant activity



Emicizumab in VWD

Off-label use in Type 3 patients (~15 published cases)

	Age (years)	Inhibitor (y/no)	Follow-up (months)
Weyand	5	yes	9
Sigaud <i>Abstract</i>	48	yes	NA
Cefalo <i>Abstract</i>	11 months	yes	12
Barg	9	no	11
Vo <i>Abstract</i>	2, 6, 41, 44	no	NA
Shanmukhaiah	6	yes	6
	11	no	6
French cohort <i>(Unpublished data)</i>	6, 11 3, 20, 40, 42	yes(2) no (5)	NA

No adverse events
ZERO spontaneous bleeds
Improvement of QOL
Limited follow-up

Longer follow-up?
Surgeries? Trauma?
Other types of VWD?

Emicizumab in VWD

RECRUITING

Clinical study

NCT05500807 - Sponsor Bleeding and Clotting Disorders
Institute Peoria, Illinois/ IIS supported by Genetech

**Emicizumab prophylaxis in severe VWD and
VWD+Hemophilia A** (monocentric observational study)

40 patients, 2-90yo

Severe type 3/VWF:Ag or VWF:act ≤ 20 IU/dL

Any VWD + hemophilia (mild/moderate/severe)

Patient on current prophylaxis

18 months of follow-up

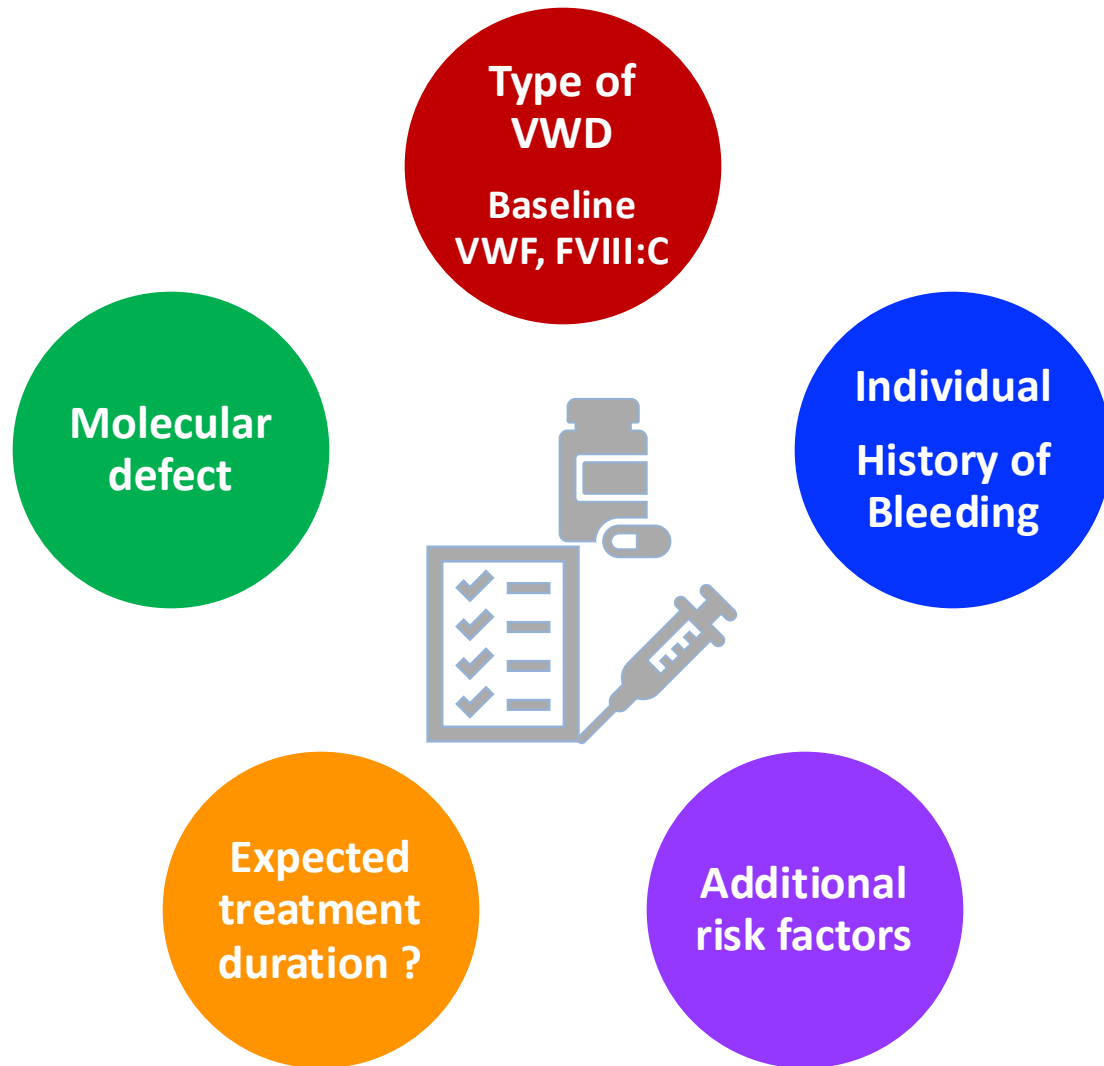
Bleed occurrence / AE/ Thrombosis/HRQOL PRO's

End of the study 03/2026

Clinical study

More to come in type 3?

Conclusion



= Need for personalization of treatment
= Choose the product
= Choose the treatment regimen

**and choose according to the best
knowledge in high risk patients/situations
In a shared decision process**



www.ehc.eu



vwd@ehc.eu



@EHC_Haemophilia



EHC - European Haemophilia Consortium



European Haemophilia Consortium



@EHCTVChannel EHC Youtube channel



European
von Willebrand Disease
Community



www.eurobloodnet.eu



@ERNEuroBloodNet



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Eurobloodnet - European Reference Network on Rare Hematological Diseases



ERN-EuroBloodNet's EDUcational Youtube channel



This project is carried out within the framework of European Reference Network on Rare Haematological Diseases (ERN-EuroBloodNet)-Project ID No 101085717. ERN-EuroBloodNet is partly co-funded by the European Union within the framework of the Fourth EU Health Programme.



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