

A SPECIALIZED DENTAL CARE PROGRAMME FOR PEOPLE WITH CONGENITAL COAGULOPATHIES OFFERED IN THE HEMOPHILIA UNIT OF VALL D'HEBRON HOSPITAL



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Introduction

The **dental problems** for people with coagulopathies are common, some due to a lack of HEALTH EDUCATION, others to a **fear of blood lose** after brushing.

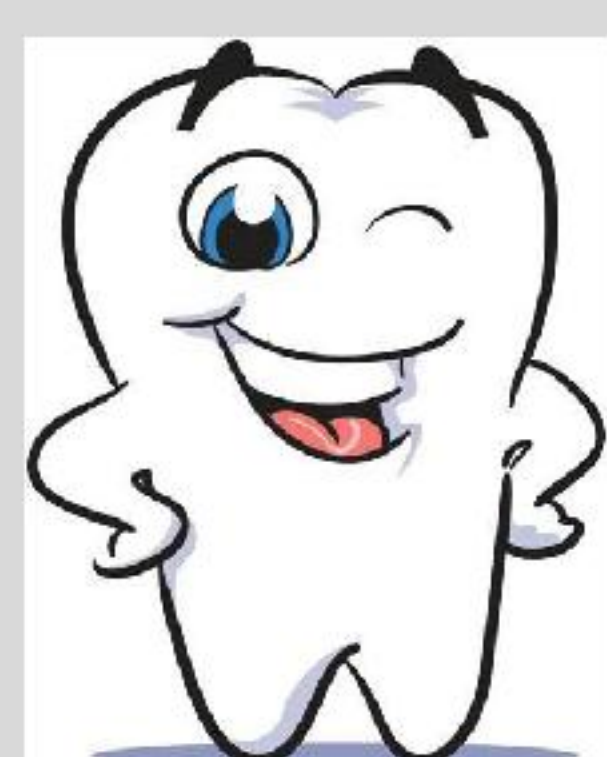
Certain injuries, minor manipulations or interventions for normal people would be trivial, but for hemophiliacs, they may **need treatment**.

Besides, an important part of this community is infected by HIV OR HEPATITIS C and the dental pathology might constitute an important focus of infection.

Regarding this situation, in 1997 the Private Catalan Hemophilia Foundation drew up a **collaboration agreement** with private and public organizations to create a specialized dental service for the attention of patients in the **Hemophilia Unit of the Hospital Vall d'Hebron HVH**, which is a comprehensive care centre for hemophilia treatment. Since 2008 the Blood and Tissue Bank has also participated in this programme.

Objectives

Creation of a specialized **DENTAL CARE** programme for people with **congenital coagulopathies** in the Hemophila Unit of Vall d'Hebron Hospital.



Description

Dental care is offered **twice a week** in the Hemophilia Unit installations, attending patients with **appointments or emergencies**.

In the last year 580 appointments have been programmed, attending **296 PATIENTS**, half of which have hemophilia A or B.

Before each treatment, a **dental medical record** is carried out as well as a clinical oral check up, a radiology exploration and a coagulation study when necessary.

After this, the **hematologist** and the **dentist** coordinate a therapeutic plan to guarantee an adequate level of hemostasis, according to the guidelines already established for the treatment in the Hemophilia Unit.

We also develop **PREVENTIVE PLANS** for periodontal disease and tooth decay through individualized programmes and we encourage the patient's early introduction to dental care.

Conclusion

The implementation of the programme with its own dental care service in the Haemophilia Unit **has been instrumental in improving the oral health** of patients with congenital coagulopathies as well as avoiding the bleeding complications associated with dental treatment.

