



# Educational project: building multi-professional network for haemophilia patients dental care access in Lithuania

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**Introduction and Objectives:** To ensure an adequate access to dental treatment for haemophilia patients and to ensure the training of dentists, general practitioners (GP), haematologists and haemophiliacs.

**Materials and Methods:** The project started in November 2011 and was implemented in two steps: (1) training of medical doctors and preparation of science-based guidelines for dental treatment of haemophiliacs; (2) to examine haemophiliacs oral health, identify oral health problems and make individual oral health recommendations.

The local guidelines according current country situation „Oral care of patients with haemophilia“ for a dentists, haematologists and medical students was prepared by leading dentists and haematologists and was published in order to set standards of treatment and education of dental care specialists and haematologists. Main form of education and training was oral presentations and practical examination delivered by Institute of Dentistry, Faculty of Medicine, Vilnius University dentists on-site in dental care clinics. Lithuanian haematologists, GP, dentists and patients suffering from haemophilia A and B, were invited to 8 dental clinics in diferent regions of Lithuania. The evaluation of oral health of each haemophiliac person, was assesed clinically, radiographically and using microbiological tests of saliva.



Clinical evaluation



Clinical evaluation



Panoramic radiography



Dental plaque



Mutans streptococci



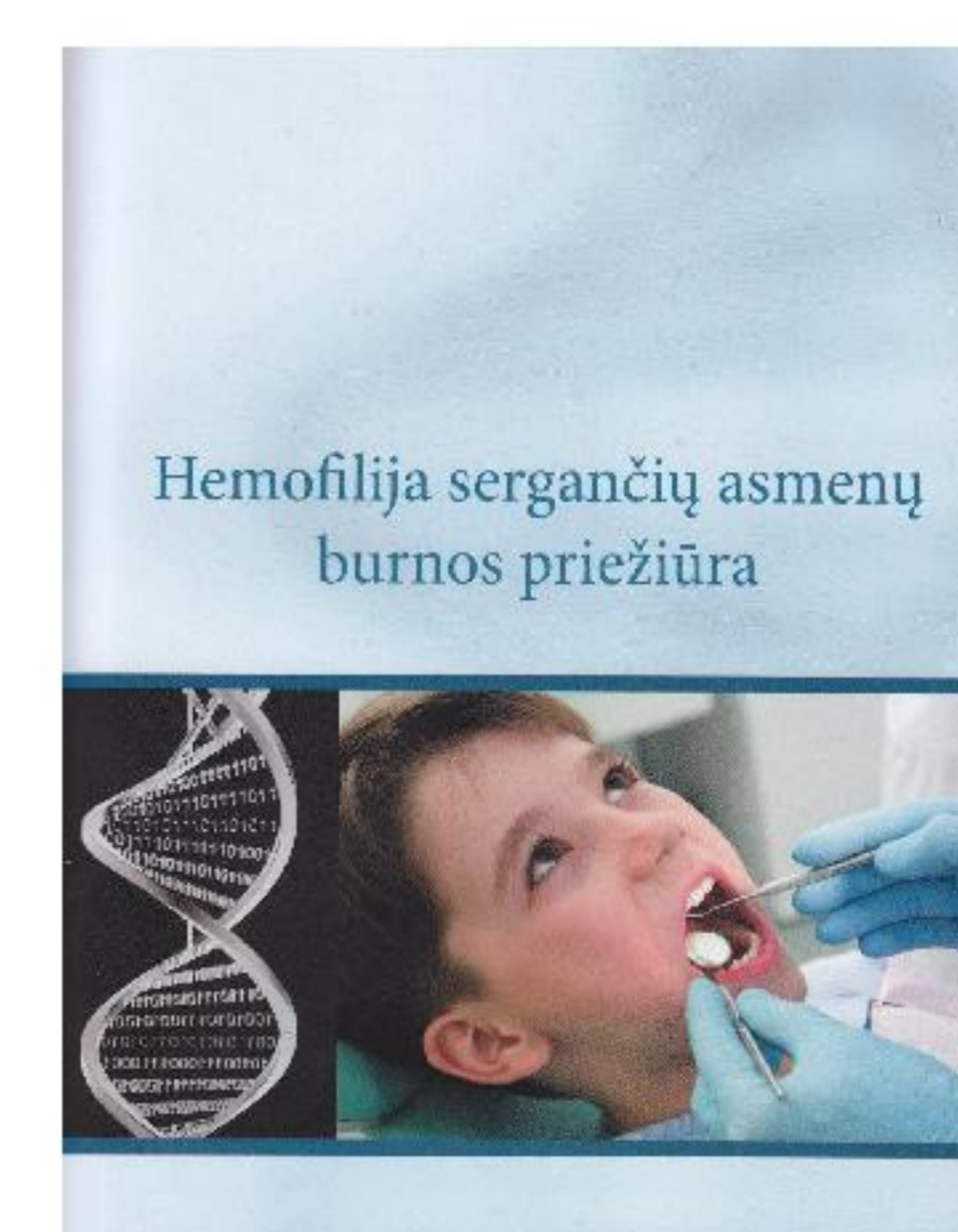
Lactobacilli

**Results:** 76 (27 children and 49 adults) patients with haemophilia A and B participated in this project. It constituted 76.6 % of Lithuanian haemophiliacs population. Form for haemophiliacs dental assessment was prepared (Table 1). It included general and oral health information, oral and dental treatment scheme, individual factor replacement plan for required dental interventions and individual oral hygiene recommendation. Individual dental treatment and oral hygiene instructions were given for every patient participating in project.

**Conclusion:** Project outcome is built network of dental care specialists, hematologists and patients and ensured access to safe and effective dental treatment. The project had influence on patients with haemophilia A and B attitude to their oral health, principles of oral hygiene is getting better. Approximately 50% of the participants started dental treatment. Dentists got more information about the principles of handling such patients and felt more confident.

**Table 1. Haemophiliacs dental assessment form**

Date of examination		
<b>Name, Surname</b>		
Date of birth		
City		
Dentist		
Haematologist		
DMFT/dft		
Gum disease (PMA index)		
Oral hygiene index		
Stimulated salivary flow rate (ml /min)		
Salivary buffering capacity		
Mutans streptococci count (CFU/ml saliva)		
Lactobacilli count (CFU/ml saliva)		
Index of orthodontic treatment need		
Radiographic examination	Caries	
	Tooth roots	
	Periapical pathology	
	Alveolar bone loss	
	Other	
<b>Oral and dental treatment scheme</b>	Professional oral hygiene	
	Prosthetic treatment	
	Dental extractions	
	Caries treatment	
	Endodontic treatment	
	Periodontal treatment	
	Orthodontic treatment	
<b>Individual factor replacement plan for required dental interventions</b>	Procedure	Clotting factor concentrate (type of factor, brand name, dosage regimen)
	Professional oral hygiene (deep scaling)	
	Dental extractions	
	Caries treatment	
	Inferior dental block nerve injections (in the lower jaw) or infiltration anaesthesia (deep into the tissue)	
	Other	
	<b>Individual oral hygiene recommendations</b>	



Lithuanian guidelines for dental treatment of patients with haemophilia

