

The Use Of Factor VIII Prophylaxis For The Prevention And Treatment Of Joint Bleeding In Patients With Severe Hemophilia A

¹Roshyn SK, ¹Yesotha T, ¹L Azura, ²Jameela S, ¹Felix LYS
¹Department of Orthopaedic & Traumatology, Hospital Ampang
²Department of Hematology, Hospital Ampang

INTRODUCTION:

Haemophilia is an inherited bleeding disorder caused by deficiency of factors VIII or IX (FVIII/IX). Severe deficiency is associated with recurrent spontaneous bleeding into the joints and results in haemophilic arthropathy, disability and reduced quality of life². Bleeding is treated with intravenous FVIII/IX concentrate, which majority will self-administer at home. Although initially FVIII/IX was administered on demand once bleeding started, increasingly, it is now being used prophylactically to prevent bleeding¹.

METHODOLOGY:

A Retrospective Study to assess the symptoms of joint bleeding in patients with Hemophilia A. Three patients who were recruited into BAXTER-855 study were selected and started on prophylaxis FVIII infusion.

Data was collected based on symptoms at 0 days (onset of prophylaxis), post prophylaxis 1 year, 5 years and now. We documented the Frequency, Site, Type of Bleeding - either spontaneous or traumatic and absent days from work/school. We also interviewed the patients to look at their ambulatory status, physical activities and compared that with the acceptable level of activities of patients in similar age group.

RESULTS:

Demographic Data

Age when Prophylaxis FVIII was started Patient A (28 years), Patient B (25 years) and Patient C (23 years). All patients have been on Prophylaxis for 7 years.

SYMPTOMS	PATIENT		
	A	B	C
Bleeding Frequency	0.5 times /week	1 time /week	0.3 times /week
Type of Bleeding	Spontaneous & Traumatic	Spontaneous	
Site of Bleeding	Right toe, Left knee Left shoulder	Left ankle Left foot Right knee Left elbow Right elbow	Left ankle Left elbow
Absent Days	NIL	2	0

TABLE 1-ONSET OF PROPHYLAXIS

SYMPTOMS	PATIENT		
	A	B	C
Bleeding Frequency	NIL	0.17 times /week	0.3 times /week
Type of Bleeding	NIL	Spontaneous	
Site of Bleeding	NIL	Left ankle	
Absent Days	NIL	2	0

TABEL 2- 1 YEAR POST PROPHYLAXIS

The current results showed that pts no longer have symptoms of hemarthrosis and able to perform daily activities with no limitation.

DISCUSSIONS:

Prophylaxis with recombinant factor VIII was effective in preventing hemarthrosis and joint damage in patients with hemophilia A. In our study, prophylaxis was initiated in three pts with frequent joint bleeding. Results showed that the symptoms of joint bleeding are almost negligible after starting them on regular prophylaxis. They could perform daily activities without limitation.

CONCLUSION:

Although prophylaxis is now considered the gold standard for the treatment of severe haemophilia in childhood and adolescences, its use in adulthood is infrequent¹. Our study shows prophylaxis should be the gold standard in