

Your Health Care

The National Hemophilia Foundation (founded in 1948 to improve and find a cure for bleeding disorders) started a campaign in 1973 to establish a network of medical centers. These centers would provide a wide range of medical services for patients and families within one treatment facility. Today there are over 141 facilities in the United States. These centers receive federal monies to support the Hemophilia programs in their particular centers.

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention also supports the network of these specialized health-care centers. These centers provide comprehensive health management and prevention to all persons with bleeding disorders, thrombophilia, and thalassemia. Each center has a multi-disciplinary team of healthcare specialist, state of the art clinical research programs, and outreach programs. Each HTC is a part of the CDC's universal data collection program. The UDC program is confidential and designed to monitor health complications of persons with bleeding disorders and monitor the safety of our nation's blood supply. The information collected helps researchers identify patterns of complications, which in turn help in the search for solutions to prevent complications.

Persons with a bleeding disorder benefits from experienced, caring staff that develop a life long plan of treatment individualized to the specific needs of the patient and family. Many people utilized the HTC throughout their entire life.

The Hemophilia Treatment Center care team may include:

- Hematologist – a physician specializing in blood disorders
- Pediatricians
- Nurses
- Social Workers
- Physical Therapist
- Orthopedists – a physician specializing in disorders of the joints and bones
- Dentist
- Each person on the team has experience in treating persons with bleeding disorders. They provide not only medical care but provide tremendous amount of emotional support throughout the person's lifetime.

To find the Hemophilia Treatment Center closest to you contact NHF @ 212-328-3700 or visit their web site www.hemophilia.org. You can also visit the CDC's web site www.cdc.gov under bleeding disorders, there is access to a list of all the Hemophilia treatment centers.

