

*Centro di Riferimento Regionale  
per la Cura dell'Emofilia e  
delle Malattie Emorragiche Congenite*



# La profilassi nell'Emofilia

*SISSET Training Center  
Corso Malattie Emorragiche  
Firenze, 27 Settembre 2016*

**Annarita Tagliaferri**

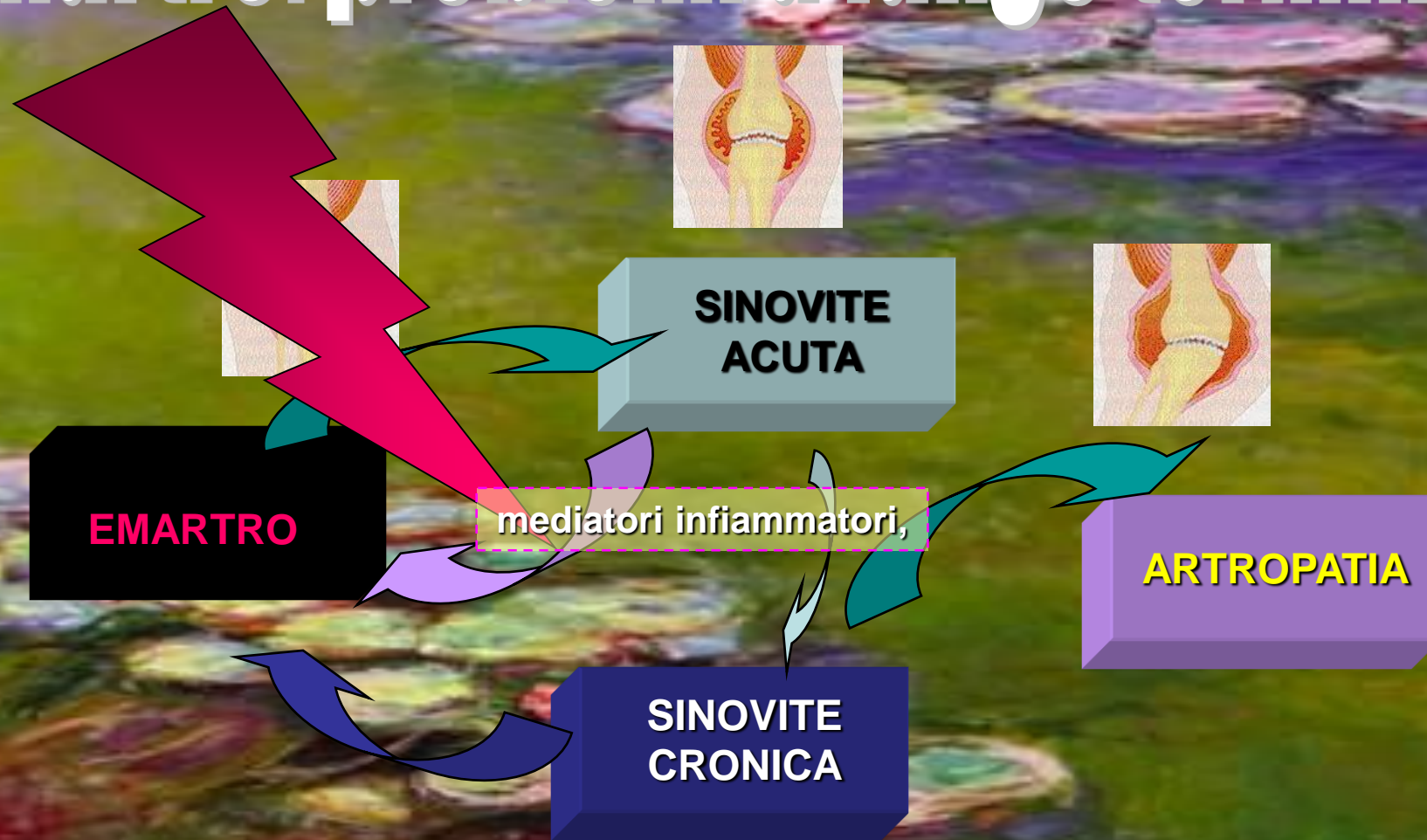
**Centro di Riferimento Regionale per la Cura dell'Emofilia  
Azienda Ospedaliero-Universitaria di Parma**



# Emofilia: obiettivi terapeutici

- L'emofilia è una malattia congenita cronica; non esiste, al momento, possibilità di guarigione
- Obiettivo terapeutico: prevenzione e trattamento delle manifestazioni emorragiche
- Nei paesi con disponibilità di concentrati efficaci e sicuri, l'obiettivo principale è la prevenzione delle emorragie e delle relative complicanze
- L'artropatia è la principale complicanza, causa di morbidità e fattore determinante per la qualità della vita

# Emartro: problemi a lungo termine

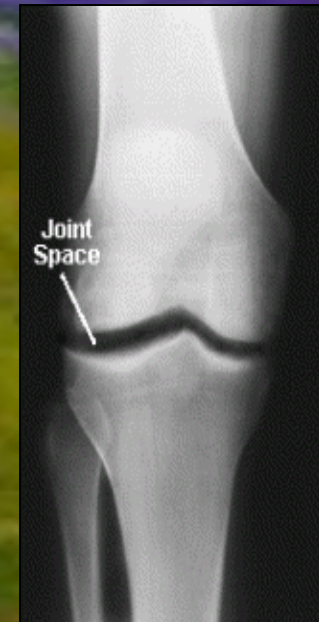
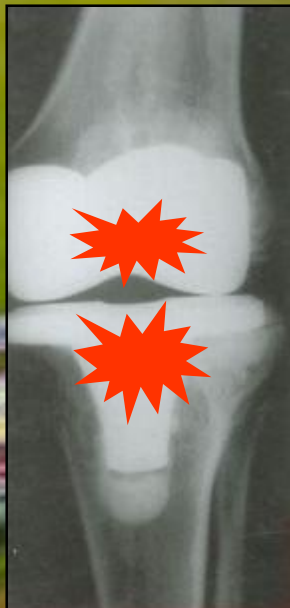


La cartilagine è più suscettibile al danno indotto dalla presenza di sangue intra-articolare in giovane età

*Rosendaal, J Rheum, 2000*



# qualità di vita



## PREVENZIONE

# DELL'ARTROPATIA



## Guidelines for the management of hemophilia

A. SRIVASTAVA,\* A. K. BREWER,† E. P. MAUSER-BUNSCHOTEN,‡ N. S. KEY,§ S. KITCHEN,¶  
 A. LLINAS,\*\* C. A. LUDLAM,†† J. N. MAHLANGU,‡‡ K. MULDER,§§ M. C. POON¶¶ and  
 A. STREET\*\*\*; TREATMENT GUIDELINES WORKING GROUP ON BEHALF OF THE WORLD  
 FEDERATION OF HEMOPHILIA

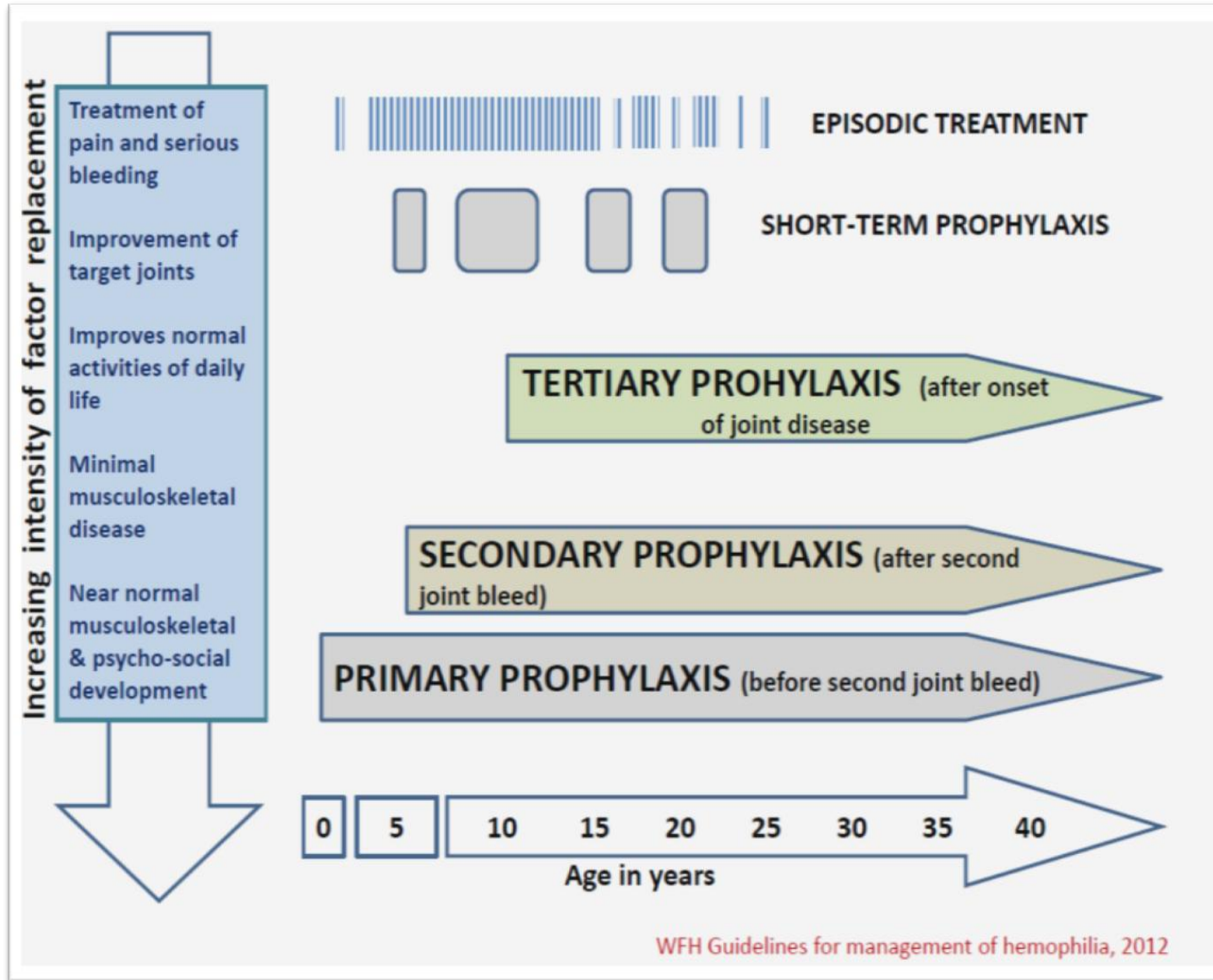
Protocol	Definition
Episodic (on-demand treatment)	Treatment given at the time of clinically evident bleeding
<b>Continuous prophylaxis</b>	
Primary prophylaxis	Regular continuous <sup>a</sup> treatment initiated in the absence of documented osteochondral joint disease, determined by physical examination, and/or imaging studies, and started before the second clinically evident large joint bleed and at age 3 years <sup>b</sup>
Secondary prophylaxis	Regular continuous <sup>a</sup> treatment started after two or more bleeds into large joints <sup>b</sup> and before the onset of joint disease documented by physical examination and imaging studies
Tertiary prophylaxis	Regular continuous <sup>a</sup> treatment started after the onset of joint disease documented by physical examination and plain radiographs of the affected joints
Intermittent (periodic) prophylaxis	Treatment given to prevent bleeding for periods not exceeding 45 weeks in a year

Note: Recommendation of the scientific subcommittee on factor VIII and factor IX of the scientific and standardization committee of the International Society on Thrombosis and Haemostasis.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Continuous is defined as the intent of treating for 52 weeks per year and receiving a minimum of an a priori defined frequency of infusions for at least 45 weeks (85%) of the year under consideration.

<sup>b</sup>Large joints, ankles, knees, hips, elbows, and shoulders.







# La profilassi può prevenire o rallentare l'evoluzione dell'artropatia emofilica...?

Gli emofilici moderati (FVIII/FIX > 1%) hanno una ridotta incidenza di emorragie e raramente sviluppano artropatia grave

*Ramgren, 1962; Ahlberg, 1965*

La profilassi può trasformare un emofilico grave in un emofilico moderato mantenendo valori di FVIII/IX > 1%.

Ridurre il numero degli episodi emorragici sin dall'infanzia può comportare una minore incidenza e gravità dell'artropatia

*Nilsson, 1992*



# 25 years' experience of prophylaxis in Sweden



	Cohort 1	Cohort 2	Cohort 3	Cohort 4	Cohort 5
<b>Patients</b>	<b>6</b> (5 A, 1 B)	<b>9</b> (8A, 1 B)	<b>20</b> (17 A, 3 B)	<b>10</b> (9 A, 1 B)	<b>15</b> (13 A, 2 B)
<b>Present age (years)</b>	<b>3-6</b>	<b>7-12</b>	<b>13-17</b>	<b>18-23</b>	<b>24-32</b>
<b>Age at start of treatment (years)</b>	<b>1.1</b> (1-1.5)	<b>1.2</b> (0.5-1.2)	<b>2.6</b> (1-4.5)	<b>4.9</b> (3-7)	<b>7.0</b> (3-13)
<b>Annual joint bleeds</b>	<b>0.1</b> (0-6)	<b>0.1</b> (0-4)	<b>3</b> (0.1-16.6)	<b>5.6</b> (0.5-14)	<b>5.0</b> (1.6-16)
<b>Orthopaedic joint score</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1.2</b> (0-7)	<b>2.9</b> (0-7)	<b>6.6</b> (0-15)
<b>Pettersson score</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4.8</b> (0-22)	<b>14.2</b> (0-22)	<b>20.6</b> (0-41)
<b>Annual absence from school/work (days)</b>			<b>0.9</b> (0-6.7)	<b>2.8</b> (0-9.8)	<b>5.8</b> (1-20)

Data presented as means and ranges

# Orthopedic Outcomes Study

Studio multicentrico internazionale in cui vengono valutati 477 pazienti affetti da emofilia grave di età <25 anni dei quali 411 in terapia "on-demand" e 66 in profilassi

I pazienti in profilassi a lungo termine, dopo un follow-up di 6 anni, presentavano oltre alla riduzione del numero emorragie articolari un outcome ortopedico migliore

Benefici sono stati riscontrati anche in pazienti con preesistente danno articolare.

La profilassi è associata ad un significativo:

- Minor numero di giorni di lavoro/scuola persi
- Minor numero di giorni di ricovero in ospedale



# Reviews / Analyses

## Modern treatment of haemophilia\*

E. Berntorp,<sup>1</sup> V. Boulyjenkov,<sup>2</sup> D. Brettler,<sup>3</sup> M. Chandy,<sup>4</sup> P. Jones,<sup>5</sup> C. Lee,<sup>6</sup> J. Lusher,<sup>7</sup> P. Mannucci,<sup>8</sup> I. Peak,<sup>9</sup> K. Rickard,<sup>10</sup> & S. Seremetis<sup>11</sup>

*Many rapid advances have been made in the diagnosis and therapy of haemophilia. Nevertheless, the condition still poses problems and challenges (e.g., joint disease, transfusion-transmitted diseases, inhibitors, provision of care in developing countries, and education and cost issues). WHO and the World Federation of Hemophilia held a joint meeting in Geneva, on 21–23 March 1994, to discuss and review current and future approaches to the management of haemophilia and its complications, including prospects for genetic technology and gene therapy in developed and developing countries. The present review article summarizes the discussions and recommendations made by the participants.*

### **Recommendations**

- Since the main goal is to prevent joint bleeding and its sequelae, prophylaxis should be considered as optimal management for persons with severe haemophilia A and B (baseline level <1% F VIII or F IX). Treatment should be started at 1–2 years of age and be continued indefinitely.

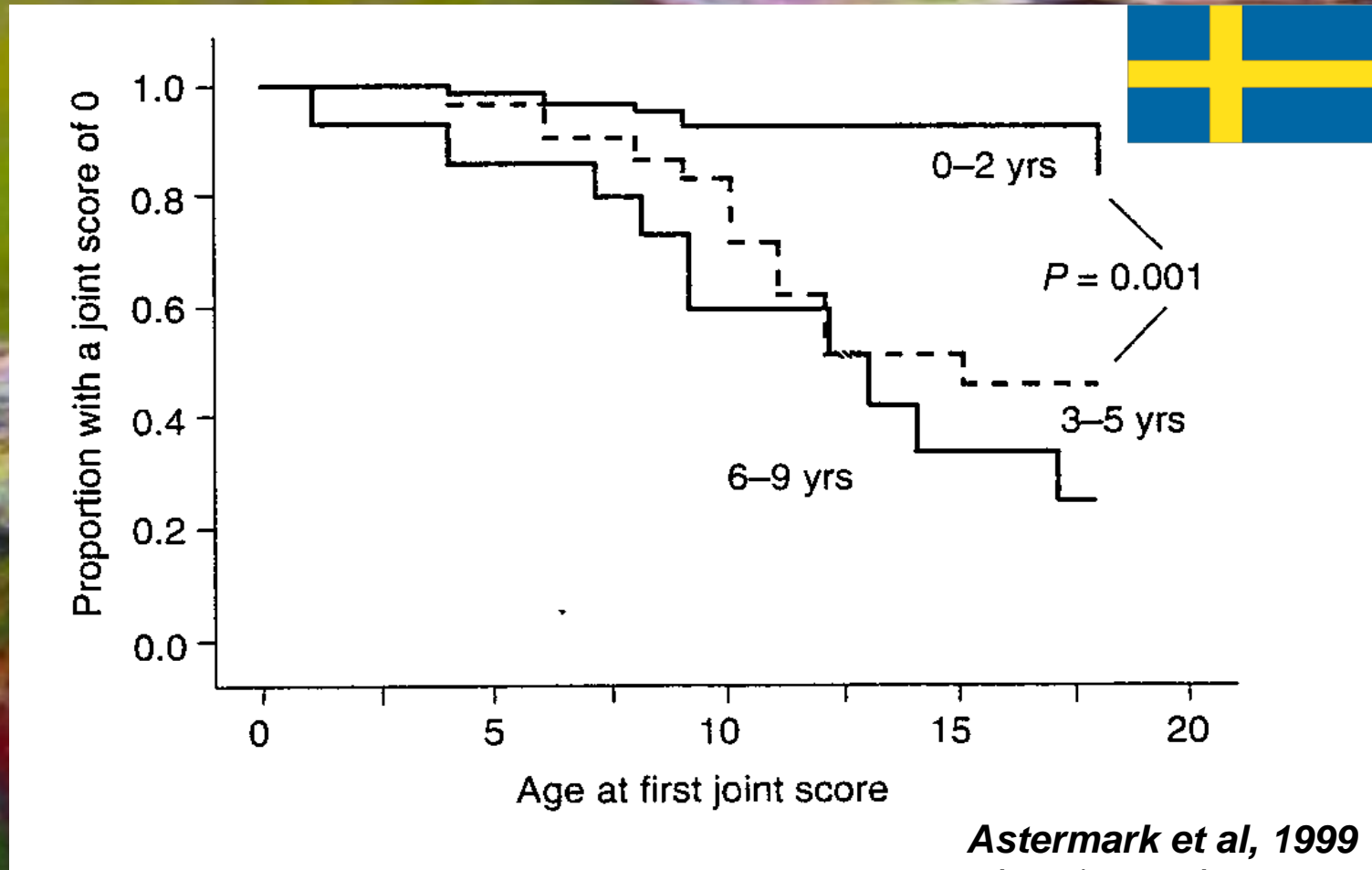


**When  
to start?**





# Danno articolare ed età di inizio della profilassi



# Correlazione emorragia articolare/artropatia



	Group 1	Group 2	Group 3
<b>Number of cases</b>	8	6	7
<b>Median age (yr) at start of prophylaxis</b>	1.75	4.25	8.75
<b>Median number of joint bleeds before start of prophylaxis</b>	1	6	> 10
<b>Joint bleeds during prophylaxis (median/year)</b>	0.14	0.22	0.65
<b>Orthopedic joint score</b>			
<b>1993</b>	0	0	4
<b>1997</b>	0	4	8
<b>Radiological joint score</b>			
<b>1993</b>	0	0	11
<b>1997</b>	0	8	19.5

Kreutz et al., Haemophilia 1998



# MASAC November 4, 2007

- Prophylaxis should be instituted early, prior to the onset of frequent bleeding, with the aim of keeping the trough FVIII or FIX level above 1% between doses
- Prophylaxis must be considered the optimal therapy for individuals with severe hemophilia A and B
- The individuals on prophylaxis have regular follow-up visits to evaluate joint status and to record any bleeding episodes that occur during prophylaxis
- **No clear when to stop**; joint bleeds with subsequent joint destruction are a **lifelong problem** for these individuals; therefore they **may need to continue prophylaxis throughout their life**



# Il primo trial randomizzato



## *The* NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL *of* MEDICINE

ESTABLISHED IN 1812

AUGUST 9, 2007

VOL. 357 NO. 6

### Prophylaxis versus Episodic Treatment to Prevent Joint Disease in Boys with Severe Hemophilia

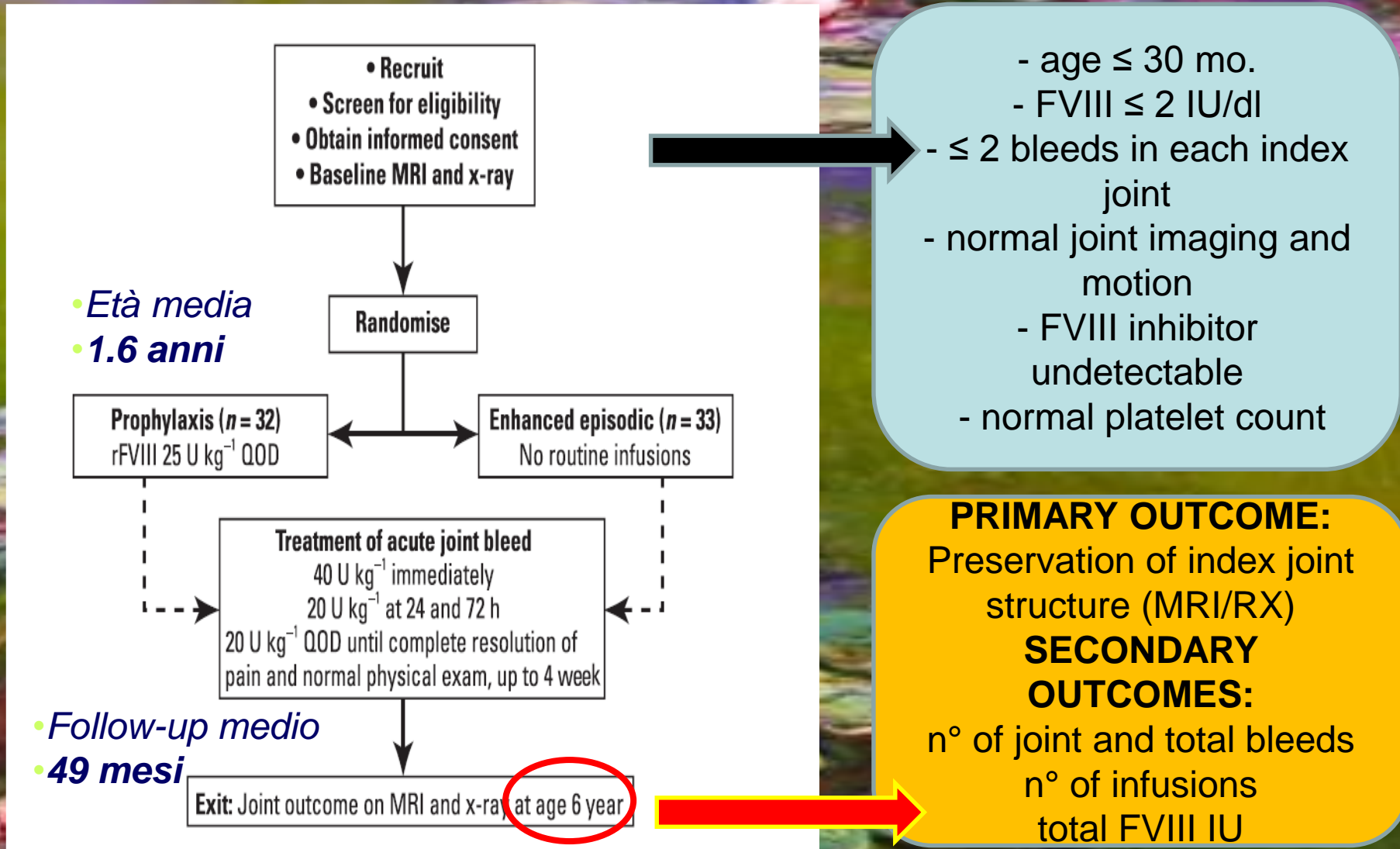
Marilyn J. Manco-Johnson, M.D., Thomas C. Abshire, M.D., Amy D. Shapiro, M.D.,  
Brenda Riske, M.S., M.B.A., M.P.A., Michele R. Hacker, Sc.D., Ray Kilcoyne, M.D., J. David Ingram, M.D.,  
Michael L. Manco-Johnson, M.D., Sharon Funk, B.Sc., P.T., Linda Jacobson, B.S., Leonard A. Valentino, M.D.,  
W. Keith Hoots, M.D., George R. Buchanan, M.D., Donna DiMichele, M.D., Michael Recht, M.D., Ph.D.,  
Deborah Brown, M.D., Cindy Leissing, M.D., Shirley Bleak, M.S.N., Alan Cohen, M.D., Prasad Mathew, M.D.,  
Alison Matsunaga, M.D., Desiree Medeiros, M.D., Diane Nugent, M.D., Gregory A. Thomas, M.D.,  
Alexis A. Thompson, M.D., Kevin McRedmond, M.D., J. Michael Soucie, Ph.D., Harlan Austin, Ph.D.,  
and Bruce L. Evatt, M.D.

Prospective, Multicentre (15 Centres)  
Open-label, Randomized, Two arms  
Enrollment: 08/1996-04/2005





# JOS: design and endpoints



# Results

• Follow up 49 months (mean)

	Prophylaxis	On Demand
Number of enrolled patients	32	33
Number of evaluated patients	27	29
Good protocol adherence	96%	98%
Joint bleeds/year (mean) *	0.63	4.89
Total bleeds/year (mean) *	1.15	17.13
rFVIII use IU/Kg/year (mean) *	6000	2500
Primary outcome (no joint damage on Xray and MRI) **	93% RR 0.17	55% RR 6.1

\* P <0.001 \*\* P 0.002

Manco-Johnson MJ, N Engl J Med, 2007



# Results

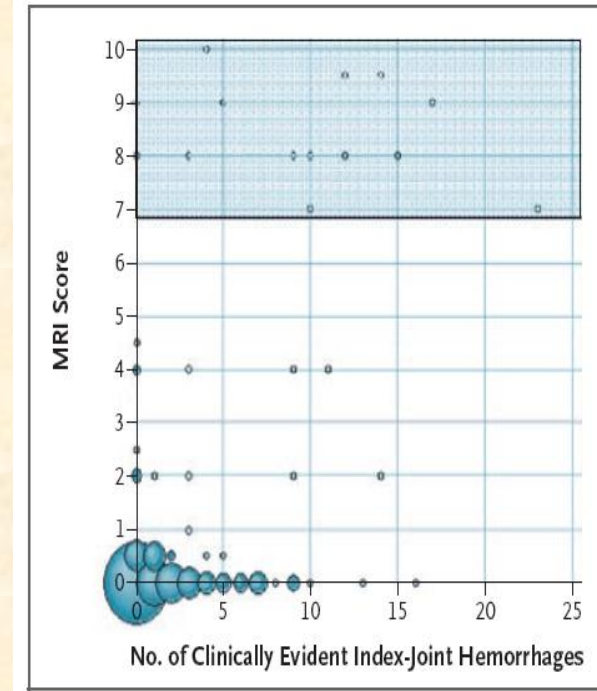
Manco-Johnson MJ, N Engl J Med, 2007

**MRI is the preferable image technique:**  
more than half of the joint abnormalities were detected only by MRI and not by Radiography indicating that MRI is more sensitive.


**Joint abnormalities, as determined by MRI, were not apparent on physical examination**

**Weak of evident correlation between hemarthroses and MRI scores:**

- some joints with no hemorrhages had high MRI scores
- some joints with more than 10 hemorrhages didn't show damage on MRI



- **Chronic microhemorrhage into the joints causes deterioration of joints without clinical evidence of hemarthroses.**
- **Prophylaxis prevents this subclinical process**



# Conclusion

To preserve joint health and  
prevent life-threatening  
hemorrhages

**prophylaxis is justified**



# A United Kingdom Haemophilia Centre Doctors' Organization guideline approved by the British Committee for Standards in Haematology: guideline on the use of prophylactic factor VIII concentrate in children and adults with severe haemophilia A

Michael Richards,<sup>1</sup> Michael Williams,<sup>2</sup> Elizabeth Chalmers,<sup>3</sup> Ri Liesner,<sup>4</sup> Peter Collins,<sup>5</sup> Vicky Vidler<sup>6</sup> and John Hanley<sup>7</sup>  
Writing group: on behalf of the Paediatric Working Party of the United Kingdom Haemophilia Doctors' Organisation

<sup>1</sup>St. James's University Hospital, Leeds, <sup>2</sup>Birmingham Children's Hospital, Birmingham, <sup>3</sup>Glasgow Sick Children's Hospital, Glasgow, <sup>4</sup>Great Ormond Street Hospital, London, <sup>5</sup>University Hospital of Wales, Cardiff, <sup>6</sup>Sheffield Children's Hospital, Sheffield, and <sup>7</sup>Newcastle Hospitals NHS Trust, UK

## *Recommendation*

It is recommended that children with severe haemophilia receive prophylactic infusions of factor VIII with the aim of preventing haemarthroses and other bleeding episodes.

**(Recommendation grade IA).**



*2010 Mar 11*

**E**  
**S**  
**P**  
**R**  
**I**  
**T**



**Randomized controlled trial compared efficacy of prophylaxis with episodic therapy in preventing hemartroses and image-proven joint damage in children with severe haemophilia A, aged 1-7 years with negative Pettersson score, over 10 y**

**22 pts prophylaxis rFVIII 25 UI/Kg 3xweek  
19 pts episodic therapy > 25UI/Kg every 12-24 h until complete resolution**





# A Randomized clinical trial of prophylaxis in children with haemophilia A (the ESPRIT study)

## Results

- 21 Children on prophylaxis had fewer hemarthroses than 19 children on episodic therapy (median 0,20 vs 0.52 joint bleeding per pt;  $P < 0.02$ )
- Plain-film radiology signs of arthropathy in 6 pts on prophylaxis (29%) vs 14 on-demand (74%)  $P < 0.05$
- Prophylaxis was more effective when started early (<36months)
- 10 of 20 pts on prophylaxis required CVC
- 5 pts developed inhibitors (12.5%) 3 P (14.3%) 2 OD (10.5%)

## Conclusions

This randomized trial confirms the efficacy of prophylaxis in preventing bleeds and arthropathy in children with hemophilia, particularly when it is initiated early in life

# Controlled, cross-sectional MRI evaluation of joint status in severe haemophilia A patients treated with prophylaxis vs. on demand

Age at prophylaxis start (y)	Current age (y)				
	12 – 16	17 – 21	22 – 26	27 – 35	
< 2 (primary)	3/4	8/8	5/9	3/4	76%
2 – < 6 (secondary)	2/4	3/7	1/5	3/6	41%
6 – < 12 (secondary)	n/a	1/12	2/12	0/3	11%
12 – 18 (secondary)	n/a	n/a	0/7	1/14	5%
Never (on-demand)	0	0/1	0/10	0/12	0%

Oldenburg et al. *Haemophilia* 2015; 21: 171-79



# Barriere alla profilassi

Costo dei  
concentrati

Età

Bleeding  
pattern

Profilassi

**Non dimostrata alcuna correlazione** (Giangrande; Haemophilia 2003)

**Effetto protettivo profilassi precoce** (Santagostino; BJH, 2005)

**Profilassi associata a basso rischio di sviluppo inibitore** (Gouw, Blood, 2007)

# Dosage regimens

## High dose

Haemophilia A: 25-40 IU/Kg 3 times/week

Haemophilia B: 25-40 IU/Kg 2 times/week

## Intermediate dose

Haemophilia A: 15-25 IU/Kg 2 o 3 times/week

Haemophilia B: 30-50 IU/Kg 1 o 2 times/week

## AICE Guidelines

Haemophilia A: 25-30 IU/Kg 3 times/week

Haemophilia B: 30-40 IU/Kg 2 times/week



# Ottimizzare il regime

Raggiungere la dose ottimale gradualmente, incrementando progressivamente dose/frequenza settimanale, considerando la variabilità del fenotipo



**Migliorare  
la compliance e  
l'accettazione delle  
famiglie**

***Ridurre  
il ricorso a CVAD***

# Swedish approach



For the Swedish group this is as a brief temporary step with the goal being to quickly escalate children to full prophylaxis:

**Malmö: quicker escalation**

**Stockolm: more gradual escalation**



# Canadian approach



<b>Protocollo:</b>	25 bambini con Emofilia A grave di età compresa fra 1 e 2.5 anni seguiti per 5 anni	
<b>Criterio di valutazione:</b>	Follow up a 3 mesi	3 emorragie nella stessa articolazione o 4 emorragie totali fanno ritenere che non vi sia un controllo adeguato del sanguinamento
<b>Dose</b>	1° step	50 UI/Kg 1 volta/settimana
	2° step	30 UI/Kg 2 volte/settimana
	3° step	25 UI/Kg a giorni alterni

## Risultati dopo 5 anni di osservazione:

- il 32% dei bambini sono passati a due infusioni/settimana
- il 28% a giorni alterni
- il 40% ha sviluppato target joint
- media emorragie articolari: 1.2 /anno/per persona
- consumo medio coorte: 3656 UI/Kg/anno rFVIII

# Durata della profilassi

Secondo OMS e WFH è indefinita

Almeno fino ai 20 anni, cioè allo sviluppo completo delle ossa e delle articolazioni

Gringeri A, Haemophilia 2003 – Van den Berg HM, Haematologica 2004

Non chiaro se la profilassi primaria deve essere proseguita raggiunta l'età adulta, necessaria valutazione caratteristiche dei pazienti

Hay C.R.M, Haemophilia 2007





*2010 Mar 11, UK guidelines on the use of prophylaxis*

## Prophylaxis in adolescent and adult patients

- 1 Adolescent and adult patients with severe haemophilia should be encouraged to continue regular prophylaxis at least until they have reached physical maturity. (Recommendation grade 2 B).
- 2 In some individuals who have demonstrated a much milder phenotype, adapting formal prophylaxis to a more targeted policy may be considered but in such cases, there must be an agreed plan for monitoring and reintroduction of prophylaxis if necessary. (Recommendation grade 2 C).
- 3 If significant haemarthroses occur after discontinuing prophylaxis, prophylaxis should be reinstated to prevent joint damage and to maintain quality of life. Prophylaxis should, in particular, be restarted if bleeding interferes with education or employment. (Recommendation grade 2 C).

# When discontinue prophylaxis...?

<i>34 of 49 patients (mean age 20) discontinued prophylaxis</i>	<b>Permanently</b> 11 pt	<b>Temporarily</b> 23 patients
Age at start	6.9	5.3
n° joint bleeds/year	2.8	6.2
Pettersson Score	8.0	8.0
Factor dose UI/Kg/week	22 (1144 Y)	37 (1924 Y)

Score to predict which patients might be able to safely stop prophylaxis utilizes:

Age at start  
prophylaxis

Joint bleeds/year  
on prophylaxis

Weekly factor dose  
on prophylaxis

Fischer K, Hemophilia 2001

A Dutch-Danish study - follow-up: 80 patients - 3 years:  
28 patients discontinued prophylaxis: 3.2 joint bleeds/y  
52 patients continued on prophylaxis: 1.8 joint bleeds/y

van Dijk K., Fischer K, Br J Haematol, 2005

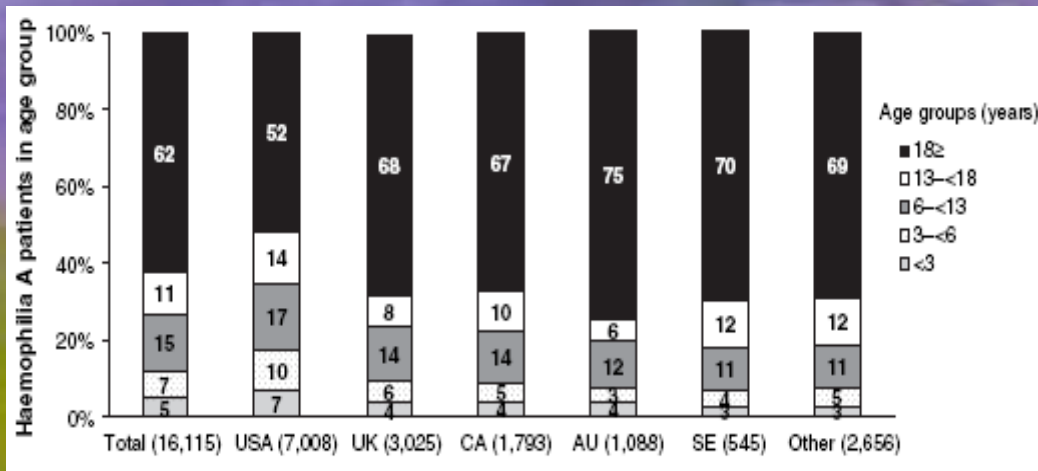




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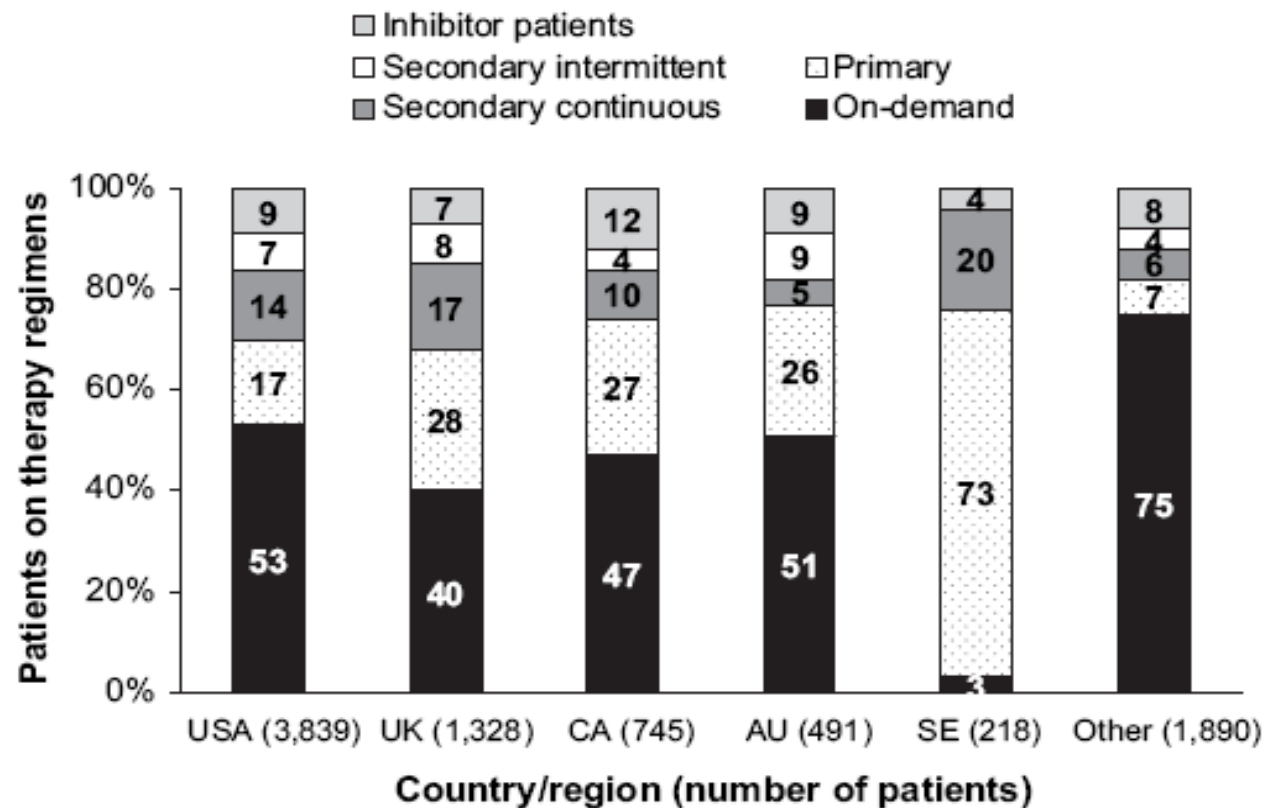


## Practice patterns in haemophilia A therapy

(Geraghty et al, Haemophilia 2006)

Prophylaxis for all, indefinitely...?

147 HTCs  
>16,000 pts





# The evolving scenario of haemophilia adult population

- **Young adults on primary prophylaxis with relatively healthy joints**
  - safely discontinue/modify prophylaxis?
- **Increasing number of adult patients with longer life expectancy**
  - effectively start / restart prophylaxis?
  - appropriate regimens?
  - emerging indications for newer bleeding risk?

# Indicazioni alla profilassi nell'adulto



## Prophylaxis most likely recommended to:

- Patients on primary prophylaxis with no or little joint damage.
- Patients experiencing life- or limb- threatening bleeding.
- Patients with frequent joint bleeding.

Walsh and Valentino, *Haemophilia* 2009



3 If significant haemarthroses occur after discontinuing prophylaxis, prophylaxis should be reinstated to prevent joint damage and to maintain quality of life. Prophylaxis should, in particular, be restarted if bleeding interferes with education or employment. (Recommendation grade 2 C).

7 Short or long term secondary prophylaxis should be considered in patients with advanced arthropathy if recurrent bleeding episodes significantly interfere with work or mobility. (Recommendation grade 2 C).

Richards et al, UKHCDO, *Br J Haematol* 2010