



TALKING TO YOUR DENTIST ABOUT YOUR BLEEDING DISORDER

***This information sheet in no way constitutes medical or dental advice. Always consult your Hemophilia Treatment Center (HTC) or Hematologist's office before seeking any treatment.**

If you are already an established patient with a dentist:

- Update your dentist about any new treatments that you have started
- Update your medical history regularly
- If you have a change in your health such as the addition of a port, joint replacement, or if your Hep C status has changed tell your dentist
- Ask the dentist to explain any upcoming dental procedures so that you can discuss your treatment plan with your HTC or Hematologist. Do not wait until the day of the procedure!
- If you have any concerns following your dental treatment contact your HTC or Hematologist

If you are going to a new dentist for the first time:

- When making your first appointment, avoid discussing your health history with the receptionist. Share your health information with the dentist and dental hygienist at your appointment.
- Contact your HTC or Hematologist to discuss your dental appointment with them to determine if you will need any pre-treatment – often the first appointment includes teeth cleaning and x-rays .
- It is your responsibility to be the teacher – take information with you from your HTC or Hematologist. Let the dentist know what bleeding disorder you have, how you treat it, and possible complications. Ask the HTC or your Hematologist's office for educational materials.
- Provide your HTC or Hematologist's office contact information to your dentist so that he/she can contact the HTC or Hematologist directly if they require more information.
- Ask the dentist to explain any upcoming dental procedures so that you can discuss your treatment plan with your HTC or Hematologist. Do not wait until the day of the procedure!
- If you have any concerns following your dental treatment contact your HTC or Hematologist

You do not need to see a dentist that “specializes” in patients with bleeding disorders. There are some dentists that may have other patients with bleeding disorders in their practice but there are not dentists who specialize in bleeding disorders. The most important thing is that your dentist understands your unique needs.