

## Emergency Telephone Numbers

Haemophilia Centre  
9.00am to 5.00pm Monday to Friday  
01522 573731 or 01522 573724 both direct lines  
Mobile: 07393 238006  
CNS Alison Dawson-Meadows  
CNS Laura Beel

Out of Hours – Waddington Unit  
01522 572255 or 01522 572257 both direct lines

### Support Group

The Haemophilia Society  
Willcox House  
140—148 Borough High Street  
London  
SE1 1LB  
Telephone for information and advice 0207 939 0780  
Email: [info@haemophilia.org.uk](mailto:info@haemophilia.org.uk)  
Website: [www.haemophilia.org.uk](http://www.haemophilia.org.uk)

## References

If you require a full list of references for this leaflet please email  
[patient.information@ulh.nhs.uk](mailto:patient.information@ulh.nhs.uk)

The Trust endeavours to ensure that the information given here is  
accurate and impartial.



If you require this information in another language, large print,  
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team at [patient.information@ulh.nhs.uk](mailto:patient.information@ulh.nhs.uk)

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# Desmopressin DDAVP (Octim) TRIAL

Haemophilia Centre  
Clinic 7  
Lincoln County Hospital

[www.ulh.nhs.uk](http://www.ulh.nhs.uk)

## **Patient information regarding treatment with DDAVP/Octim (Desmopressin)**

This leaflet aims to provide patients with information on DDAVP which is given to some patients who have inherited bleeding disorders to raise their clotting factor levels. It is a synthetic drug.

It is commonly used in all Haemophilia centres for patients who have mild Haemophilia A, von Willebrands disease and some platelet dysfunction disorders.

### **Administration**

It may be given by injection either into a vein (intravenously) or under the surface of the skin (subcutaneous injection). It may also be inhaled through the nostrils (intranasal spray).

### **DDAVP/Octim Trial**

When a patient is diagnosed with any of the above disorders it is likely that they will be asked to participate in a trial of DDAVP. This will ensure that if it was given in an emergency situation the patient would respond appropriately.

The DDAVP trial will entail the patient attending the Haemophilia centre in Clinic 7 at an arranged time and spending at least an hour there.

The Haemophilia sister will take a blood sample, administer the DDAVP and at least thirty minutes later take a further blood sample. It will depend on the route of administration as to how long the wait will be.

Whilst the intravenous administration of DDAVP is taking place the patient may feel a little light headed and experience a hot flush giving rise to a red face. This will only last for a short while, usually just for the duration of the administration of the DDAVP, approximately twenty to thirty minutes.

If the DDAVP is given as injection under the surface of the skin then the waiting time will be longer as the absorption rate is slower than when given intravenously.

### **Special advice**

Once the patient has received the DDAVP he/she will be expected to restrict their fluid intake to half a litre (just under a pint) for the following eight hours. This is because the DDAVP has an effect on fluid retention within the body making the individual retain body fluid for a while.

If the patient does not pass urine within the following 18 to 24 hours they should make contact with the Haemophilia centre OR out of hours, contact Waddington Unit and ask to speak to a Haematology nurse.

**Contra-indications** cardiac insufficiency and other conditions treated with diuretics; psychogenic polydipsia and polydipsia in alcohol dependence.

**Renal impairment** use with caution; antidiuretic effect may be reduced.

**Pregnancy** small oxytocic effect in third trimester; increased risk of pre-eclampsia.

**Breast-feeding** not known to be harmful.

**Side-effects** fluid retention and hyponatraemia (in more serious cases with convulsions) on administration without restricting fluid intake; stomach pain, headache, nausea, vomiting, allergic reactions and emotional disturbance in children also reported; epistaxis, nasal congestion, rhinitis with nasal spray.