



The Monthly PERIODical

Welcome to August's Monthly PERIODical Newsletter, written specifically for women, girls, and people with the potential to menstruate.



The Role of the Gynecologist

Gynecologists Have Significant Part to Play in Shrinking Diagnostic Gaps

A new commentary, "Closing the Diagnostic Gap in Adolescents and Young Adult Women with Bleeding Disorders," published in the August issue of the journal *Obstetrics & Gynecology* is a call to maximize the role of gynecologists to achieve early diagnoses for women and girls with inherited bleeding disorders. "This delay from symptom presentation to diagnosis represents the 'diagnostic gap'. Gynecologists have a tremendous opportunity to improve the lives of so many individuals by closing this diagnostic gap and offering screening to those who need it."

The paper's two authors, a gynecologist and a hematologist, describe the gaps experienced by carriers of hemophilia and people with VWD and EDS (Ehlers-Danlos syndrome, a connective tissue disorder that is often accompanied by heavy bleeding). They suggest consistent screening for women who have symptoms such as heavy menstrual bleeding.

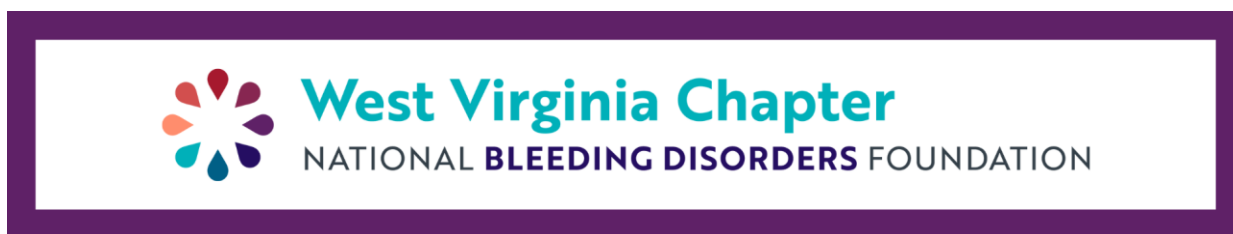
"Given the prevalence of VWD, EDS, and hemophilia-carrier status, gynecologists should expect to encounter patients affected by these conditions in our practices on a frequent basis. Early recognition can have a significant effect on the diagnostic delays that persist from lack of screening, concluded the authors. "When armed with knowledge and increased awareness of the conditions associated with heavy menstrual bleeding, we as gynecologists have an opportunity to close the diagnostic gap and improve outcomes by taking the initiative to screen. We must be prepared to work collaboratively with hematologists to provide interventions directed toward improving quality of life and decreasing rates of complications due to reproductive tract bleeding." Click [HERE](#) for the full breakdown.



WFH Global Summit on Women and Girls with Bleeding Disorders Online: September 28-29

This year's summit is focused on Equity and Access to care for women and girls with bleeding disorders.

Goals of the 2023 summit include identifying and addressing barriers to care, improving access through a patient-centered and multidisciplinary approach, filling gaps in data collection and research, guidelines utilization, and advocacy for policy change and funding. This is a free event and registration is open [HERE](#).



We've Changed Our Name!

The National Hemophilia Foundation is now the National Bleeding Disorders Foundation (NBDF). The name change is more inclusive, because we don't just serve families with hemophilia, but a variety of bleeding disorders including VWD, and rare deficiencies. We hope that you can see yourself reflected in this change. Learn more about the name change [HERE](#).

NBDF Resources

As always don't forget about the great NBDF resources available to help you get a diagnosis and share your story.

[Better You Know](#): Guidance on symptoms, testing, and getting diagnosed.

[Victory for Women](#): A place to share your story and get questions answered.