PRESS RELEASE

ISTH endorses the second edition of the World Federation of Hemophilia’s Guidelines on the Management of Hemophilia

(Montreal, Canada, April 11, 2013): The International Society on Thrombosis and Haemostasis (ISTH) has endorsed the second edition of the World Federation of Hemophilia’s Guidelines for the Management of Hemophilia.

In its careful review, the ISTH noted the involvement of many experts from around the world, not only within the writing group but also in the elaborate review process. The society stated that these practical guidelines for the management of hemophilia clearly incorporate a wide range of views, and that the recommendations are consistent with current best practice.

Hemophilia is a rare disorder that can be complex to diagnose and to manage. These guidelines, compiled and reviewed by global experts and based on the best available evidence, contain clinical practice recommendations on the diagnosis and general management of hemophilia, including factor replacement therapy, musculoskeletal complications, inhibitors, and transfusion-transmitted infections.

By compiling these guidelines, the World Federation of Hemophilia (WFH) aims to assist healthcare providers seeking to initiate, maintain or enhance hemophilia care programs, encourage practice harmonization around the world and, where recommendations lack adequate evidence, stimulate appropriate studies.

The second edition of the Guidelines for the Management of Hemophilia is available in the journal Haemophilia and on the WFH’s website at www.wfh.org.

About hemophilia and other bleeding disorders
Hemophilia, von Willebrand disease, inherited platelet disorders, and other factor deficiencies are lifelong bleeding disorders that prevent blood from clotting properly. People with bleeding disorders do not have enough of a particular clotting factor, a protein in blood that controls bleeding, or else it does not work properly. The severity of a person’s bleeding disorder usually depends on the amount of clotting factor that is missing or not functioning. People with hemophilia can experience uncontrolled bleeding that can result from a seemingly minor injury. Bleeding into joints and muscles causes severe pain and disability while bleeding into major organs, such as the brain, can cause death.
About the World Federation of Hemophilia
For 50 years, the World Federation of Hemophilia (WFH), an international not-for-profit organization, has worked to improve the lives of people with hemophilia and other inherited bleeding disorders. Established in 1963, it is a global network of patient organizations in 122 countries and has official recognition from the World Health Organization. Visit WFH online at www.wfh.org.

About the International Society on Thrombosis and Haemostasis
Founded in 1969, the International Society on Thrombosis and Haemostasis (ISTH) is the leading worldwide not-for-profit organization dedicated to advancing the understanding, prevention, diagnosis and treatment of thrombotic and bleeding disorders. ISTH is an international membership organization with over 3,000 clinicians, researchers and educators working together to improve the lives of patients in more than 85 countries around the world. Among its highly regarded activities and initiatives are education and standardization programs, research activities; meetings and conferences, peer-reviewed publications and expert committees. Visit ISTH online at www.isth.org.

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