



WORLD FEDERATION OF HEMOPHILIA
FÉDÉRATION MONDIALE DE L'HÉMOPHILIE
FEDERACIÓN MUNDIAL DE HEMOFILIA

14 April, 2015

Minister of Health Bartosz Arłukowicz
Ministry of Health
Miodowa 15,
00-952 Warsaw, Poland

Subject: Hemophilia Treatment and Care in Poland

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Dear Honorable Minister Arłukowicz,

The World Federation of Hemophilia (WFH) is an international not-for-profit organization dedicated to improving the lives of people with hemophilia and related bleeding disorders. It is a global network of patient organizations in 127 countries founded in 1963 and has official recognition from the World Health Organization. The Polish Hemophilia Society is one of our national member organizations.

On 19 February 2015, I have sent you a letter regarding Hemophilia treatment and care in Poland to express my concern about several cases of people with hemophilia who have not received appropriate and immediate treatment when admitted to hospital emergency ward with bleeding episodes. One of the aims of our organization is to provide support and guidance on achieving and maintaining international standards in hemophilia care. According to the WFH Guidelines for the Management of Hemophilia, comprehensive care carried out in specialized Hemophilia Treatment Centres (HTC) is the optimum treatment for patients with hemophilia and other bleeding disorders.

The WFH Guidelines also recommend that in case of acute bleeds patients should be treated with CFCs as soon as possible (preferably within two hours), while in case of potentially life-threatening bleeds patients should receive factor infusion immediately, even before diagnostic assessment is initiated. Proper clinical supervision in an HTC leads to optimal use of replacement therapy, helps avoid further complications for patient's health, disability and save patient's life. Adequate and timely treatment offered to patients subsequently also decreases the cost of treating specific bleeding episodes.

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Unfortunately, there has been no response to my previous letter of 19 February 2015. I understand that your agenda is very busy; however this topic is of utmost importance for several thousands of your citizens. The WFH remains confident that the Polish government will continue to be committed to improving the quality of life of patients with hemophilia and other bleeding

disorders. We look forward to your reply and to pursuing the exceptional cooperation between the WFH and the Polish Ministry of Health.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'M. van den Berg', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Marijke van den Berg, MD
WFH Vice President Medical and Chair of the Medical Advisory Board

c.c. President of the Polish Hemophilia Society, Bogdan Gajewski