

Surgery and von Willebrand disease

Having von Willebrand disease (VWD) means your blood doesn't clot properly due to a deficiency or dysfunction of von Willebrand factor (VWF).¹ Among the three types of this hereditary bleeding disorder, symptoms can range from very mild to life-altering and severe.¹

People living with VWD, no matter the type, are at risk of excessive bleeding when undergoing invasive surgery.²



60-80%

OF PEOPLE WITH VWD HAVE TYPE 1^{1,2}

You have lower than normal levels of VWF.¹



15-30%

OF PEOPLE WITH VWD HAVE TYPE 2²

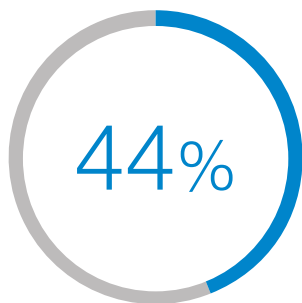
Your body's VWF doesn't function the way it's supposed to.¹ There are four subtypes that vary based on the behavior of your individual VWF structure.²



5-10%

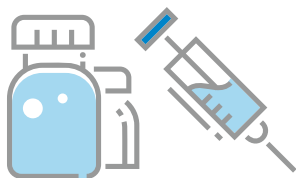
OF PEOPLE WITH VWD HAVE TYPE 3, THE MOST RARE AND SERIOUS FORM^{1,2}

Your body produces little to no VWF, which may result in spontaneous and frequent bleeding in joints and muscles.^{1,2}



In a study of 80 adults with Type 1 VWD, nearly half (44%) reported excessive bleeding with surgery.³

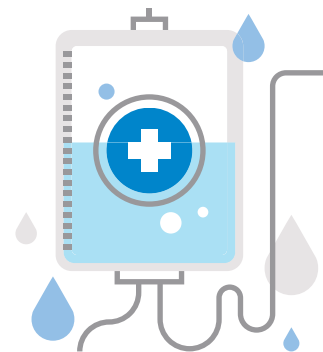
Several treatment options exist based on VWD type and severity. For example, infusing factor concentrates helps the blood clot by increasing the levels of VWF and stabilizing factor VIII.⁴ But finding and maintaining the right levels of VWF and factor VIII in patients with VWD during surgery can be complicated.



- + Too many factor concentrates used for a long time during and after surgery can lead to harmful blood clots in patients with known risk factors.⁵
- Too few factor concentrates may lead to excessive bleeding.⁵

It's extremely important to see a healthcare professional, such as your hematologist, before a planned surgery or dental work so you can discuss the appropriate treatment strategy for you.⁶

To learn more about VWD, visit beyondthebleed.com.



References

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