

## World Haemophilia Day

**Prelims (GS I)** - *Current events of National Importance| General Science*

**Mains (GS I)** - *Issues relating to development and management of Social Sector/Services relating to Health.*

### Why in news?

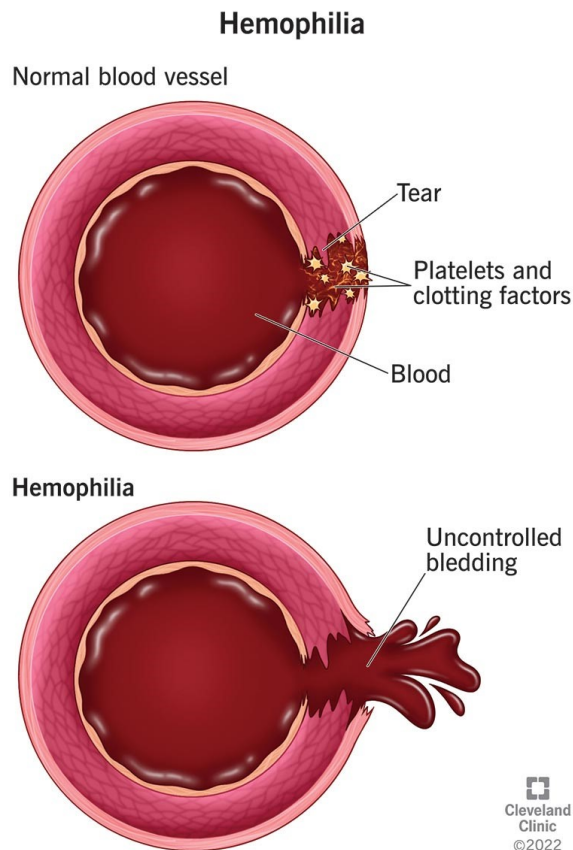
Recently World Haemophilia Day was observed on April 17 by World Federation of Haemophilia (WHF) a Non-Profit organization.

- World Haemophilia Day is observed annually as a global healthcare initiative **to create awareness on bleeding disorders.**
- **Objectives** - To promote better control and prevention of haemophilia, through collaboration with local policymakers.
  - To ensure improved treatment and care for those affected.
- **Theme, 2025** - "Access for All - Women and Girls Bleed Too".
- **Organizing Body in India** - Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD), Union Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.

*India has the World's second largest burden of Haemophilia with a case load of 1.36 lakhs.*

### Haemophilia

- It is a **rare genetic bleeding disorder** where blood doesn't clot normally.



- **Cause** - Haemophilia is caused by a *mutation or change*, in one of the genes located on the X chromosome, that provides instructions for making the clotting factor proteins needed to form a blood clot.
- Males are more commonly affected.
- Females can be carriers with 50% chance of transmitting to sons.
- **Symptoms** - Prolonged bleeding after injuries or surgeries, as well as spontaneous bleeding into joints and muscles.
- **Types** - There are two types based on the protein factor deficiency,
  - **Haemophilia A** - Factor VIII (F-8) deficiency (more common)
  - **Haemophilia B** - Factor IX (F-9) deficiency (less common)
- **Treatment** - There is *no cure* for hemophilia, effective treatments are available to manage the condition and prevent severe bleeding, includes replacement of missing clotting factors using Gene therapy.

*Recently Indian scientist has conducted first human clinical trial of Gene therapy for Haemophilia A at Christian medical college, Tamil Nadu.*

- **WHF Humanitarian Aid Program** - Launched in 1996 by WHF to provide access to support care and treatment of bleeding disorder globally.

## Quick facts

### **Other Major Bleeding Disorders**

- **Von Willebrand Disease** - Deficiency or dysfunction of von Willebrand factor (vWF), a protein that helps platelets stick to damaged blood vessels.
- Most common inherited bleeding disorder.
- Autosomal dominant (affects males and females equally).
- Prolonged bleeding from cuts, nosebleeds, heavy menstrual bleeding.
- **Thrombocytopenia** - Caused due to ***low platelet count*** (below 150,000 platelets per microliter).
- Small red/purple spots and prolonged bleeding.

### **References**

1. [PIB| World Haemophilia Day](#)
2. [Cleveland Clinic| Haemophilia](#)

