

Travel Letters

When traveling with clotting factor, the person with the bleeding disorder – in the case of a child, the parent – should bring a prescription from their doctor and a travel letter from the doctor or hemophilia treatment center (HTC). The letter should contain a brief description of the person’s condition and the need for the medication.

Sample Travel Letter

Date:

RE: Travel Letter

To Whom It May Concern:

_____ (Insert name of person with bleeding disorder) ____ (Date of birth) __ has _____ (insert diagnosis) _____.

This is a blood clotting disorder that can cause painful and debilitating bleeding episodes into joints and muscles. Bleeding episodes are treated with IV infusions of clotting factor.

The patient with this bleeding disorder treats bleeding episodes with a clotting factor concentrate ____ (Insert brand name) _____.

Because ____ (Insert name of person with bleeding disorder) __ has this bleeding disorder, he/she must travel with clotting factor and dilutant water.

Infusion supplies such as syringes, needles, and tourniquets are required to infuse the product (and may have these items on his/her person). Clotting factor should be maintained at room temperature (not exceeding 86°F) and, ideally, be packed in a cooler or a container with cold packs or in a refrigerator (36°F to 46°F). Clotting factor should never be frozen. If the medication exceeds these temperatures, there is a high risk of it losing its potency and effectiveness.

Please note that this special medication consists of multiple manufacturer-sealed glass vials of sterile water and white powder. We recommend that this medication stay with the patient during travel, including planes, trains, or cars, because of its glass and temperature fragility and because the patient might need it urgently for a bleeding episode, which can occur at any time. Being unable to quickly administer this medicine can be life threatening. This medication must not be opened until needed.

The person with the bleeding disorder also should use aminocaproic acid for dental, mouth, or nose bleeding episodes. This antifibrinolytic drug is used to maintain clots and to prevent rebleeding. It is available in 500-mg tablets or in a 250-mg/mL elixir.

Please feel free to call ____ (Insert name of hemophilia treatment center) __ at ____ (Phone number) _____ for further assistance.

Sincerely,

_____ (Insert name of doctor) _____ (Insert title) _____

_____ (Insert name of hospital/hemophilia treatment center) _____

_____ (Insert name of nurse) _____ (Insert Title) _____