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Hemophilia: new developments in patient treatment

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Current treatment

- Wild-type coagulation factor concentrate, discussion about inhibitor-genicity
- Modified concentrates (B domain deleted), issues with monitoring
- Safety and availability are a given
- Choices are limited to dosing schedules
 - Pharmacokinetics, optimal start of prophylaxis



New developments

Alternative approaches

Gene therapy

Longer acting clotting factors

Optimize treatment with current concentrates, pharmacokinetics



Longer acting

- Fusion, to interfere with clearance
 - Fc fusion (registered, FVIII and FIX)
 - Albumin fusion (registered, FIX)
 - PEGylation (phase III data)



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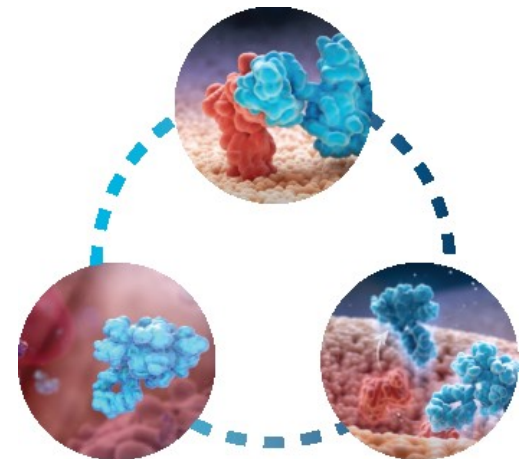


Longer acting clotting factors: Fc tail

- Fc part of IgG interacts with neonatal Fc receptor (FcRn), prolonging IgG half-life



Same happens if Fc is fused with other protein!

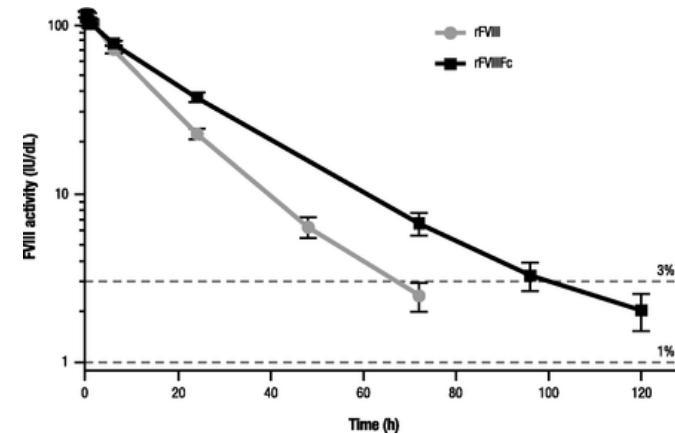


From Eloctate website



A-LONG study

- rFVIIIIFc, T1/2 19h
- 165 PTPs, ≥ 12 jaar
- Every 3-5 days ABR 1.6
 - 30% 2x/wk, 33% every 3d, 33% every 5d
- Every week ABR 3.6
- No unexpected AEs, no inhibitors
 - 2014: FDA approval
 - 2016: available NL as Elocta

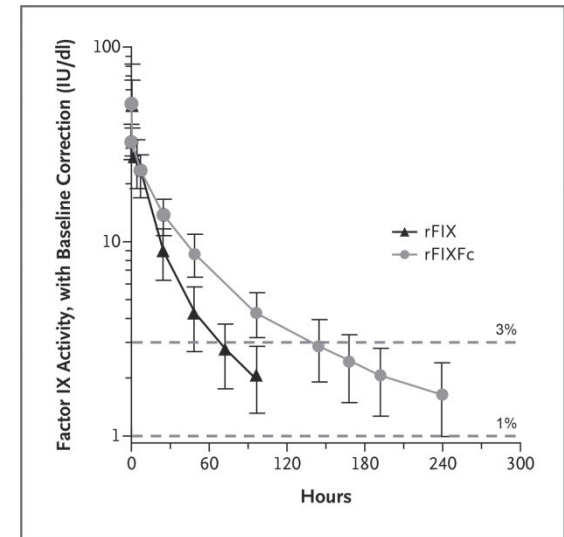


B-LONG study

- rFIXFc, T1/2 82h (\approx 3 days)
- 123 PTPs
- No inhibitors



- 2016: available in NL as Alprolix



Regimen	Start with	ABR
1x/wk, dose adjusted	50U/kg	3.0
100U/kg, interval adjusted	10 days	1.4
On demand	20-100U/dose	17.7

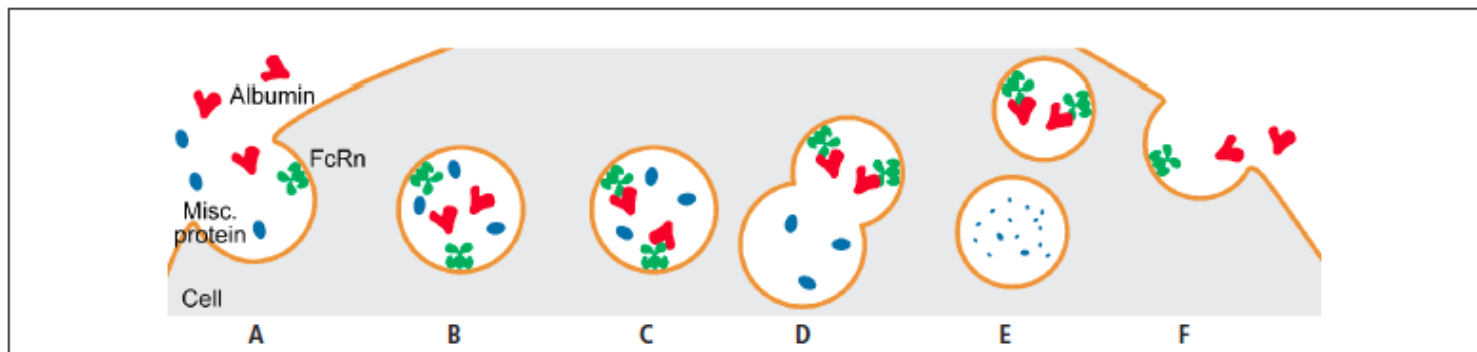
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Longer acting clotting factors: albumin fusion

- Attractive option, naturally occurring protein
 - Levimir insulin
- Works like Fc fusion: interacts with FcRn, 'recycles' clotting factor



Clinical data rIXFP

- 63 PWH, factor IX < 2%, 12-61 yr
 - Prophylaxis 1x/ 7, 10 or 14 days
 - T $\frac{1}{2}$ 102h
 - Trough 20% while on 40E/kg/ 1 wk
12% while on 75E/kg/ 2 wks
 - ABR 0 in 1x/wk, 1.08 in 1x/2 wk
- *what would happen if you lowered the dose..*

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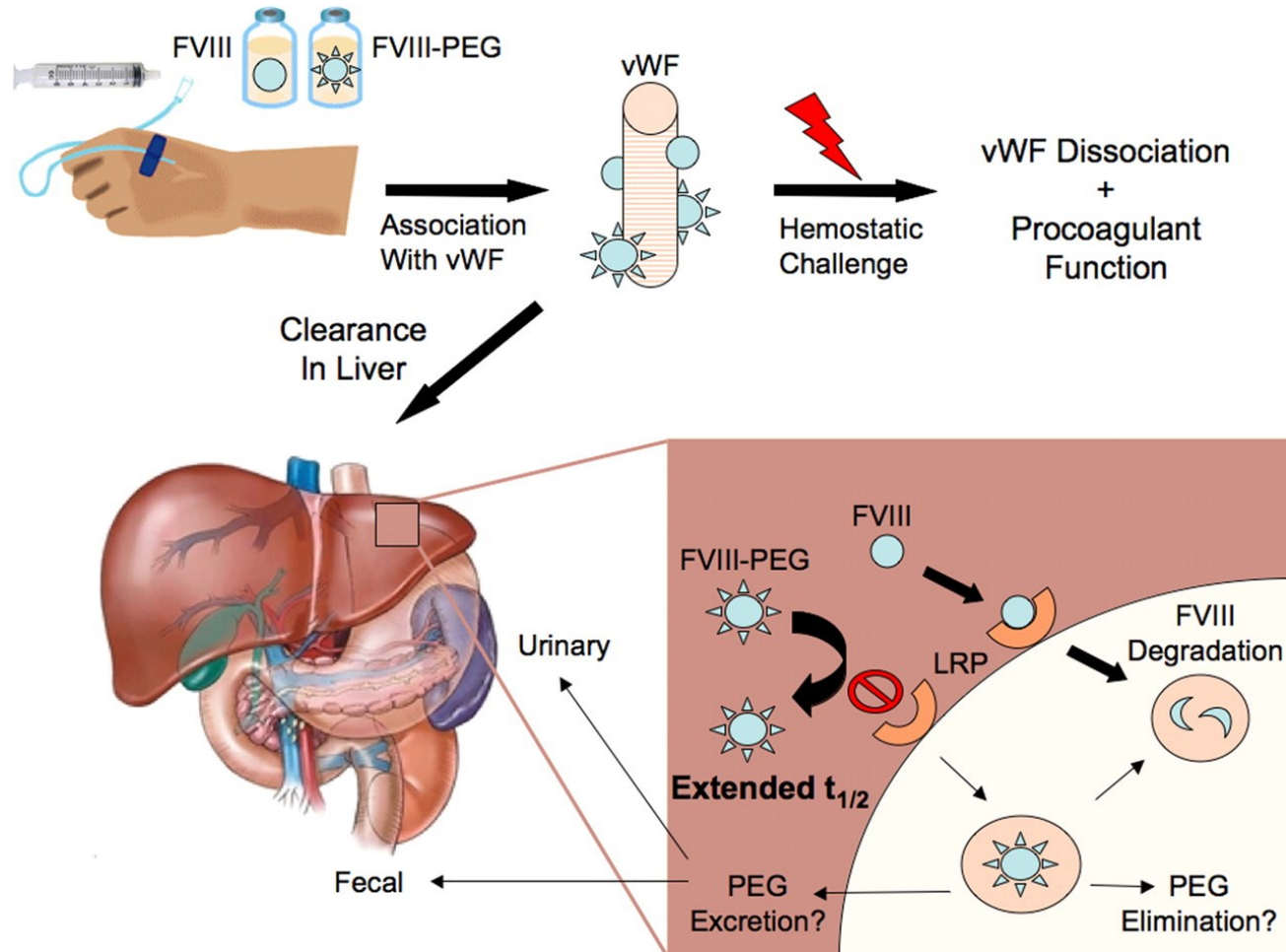


Longer acting clotting factors: PEGylation

- Well known additive, no reported side effects: PEG interferon, laxative
 - But no data for long term, iv use
- Polyethylene glycol polymers bind to specific sites of factor VIII
 - random binding led to interference with VWF binding, and reduced activity



Longer acting clotting factors: PEGylation



Current status

- Three FVIII molecules in phase III studies
 - Two B domain deleted, one full length
 - Outcomes reported in abstract form
 - In general: $t_{1/2}$ appr 18 h
 - Effective with increased interval
 - But: high doses, compared to Dutch standard
- FIX phase III published
 - ABR 1.0 with $40^E/kg/w$, 2.9 with $10^E/kg/wk$



Why better results for factor IX than for factor VIII?

- Fusion proteins are still stabilized by VWF
- $T_{1/2}$ of longer acting VIII molecules = $T_{1/2}$ of VWF, appr. 18 h



Gene therapy

- 2011 first published human results
 - 6 adult patients with severe haemophilia B
 - AAV8 vector, iv administration
 - Course over 6 months: 2-4% factor IX, no prophylaxis. Hepatitis requiring steroids.
- 2015 first trial open for Dutch subject
- 2016 WFH: avalanche of new data

Hemophilia B, WFH

- All studies use in vivo approach with AAV virus (coagulation factor cassette in virus, iv administration)
- All have issues with immune respons
- Uniquere: n= 5, 1 nonresp, rest 3.1-6.7%
 - AAV5, wild type hFIX
- Spark: n = 4, all resp, 21-42% FIX
 - rAAV SPK 100, FIX-Padua

Hemophilia A, WFH

- Unexpected very good results from Biomarin trial
 - AAV5, B-domain deleted factor VIII
 - N=2, low dose, FVIII < 5%
 - N=7, high dose, FVIII > 15% (4/7 > 50%)
- Immune response in first high dose patient, subsequently prophylactic steroids

Future directions

- Ex vivo transvection of autologous stem cells (phase 1 planned 2017/18)
- Gene editing: ZFN, talen, CRISPR-Cas9

ARTICLE

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CRISPR/Cas9 β -globin gene targeting in human haematopoietic stem cells

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Non-clotting factor based approaches

- Inhibition of TFPI
- Mimicry of cofactor function of VIII
- Reduction of antitrombin



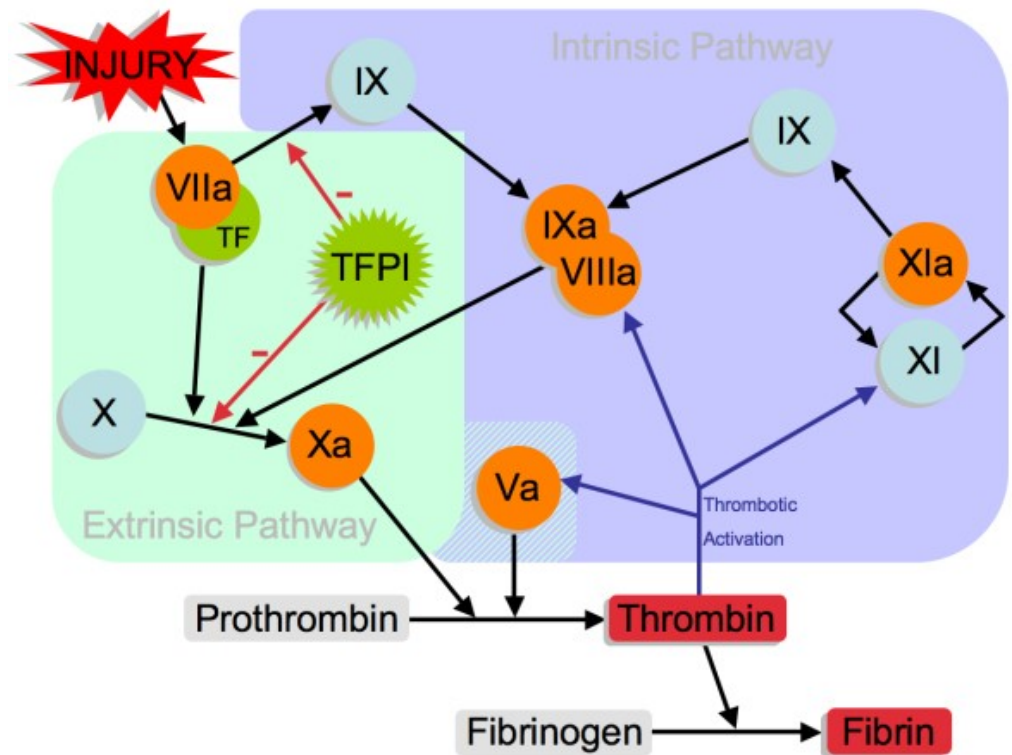
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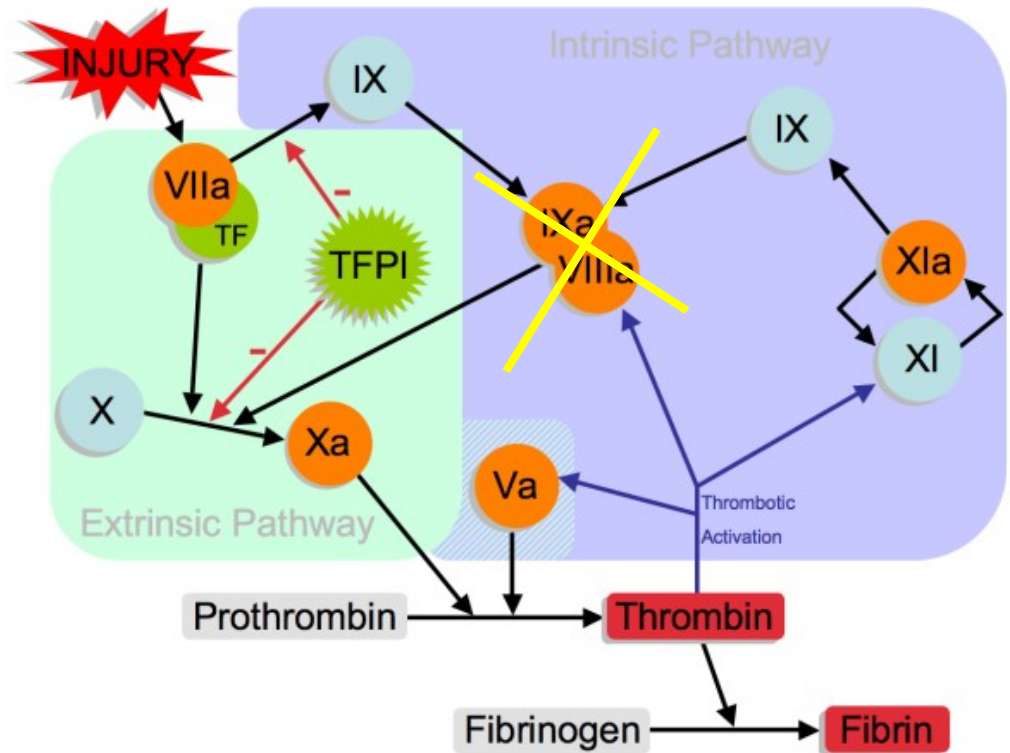
Inhibition of TFPI

- TF/factor VII initiates coagulation, forms small amount of Xa. Negative feedback by TFPI
- Subsequent large amount of Xa is formed through IX/VIII
- Compensate absence of IX/VIII by inhibition of TFPI?



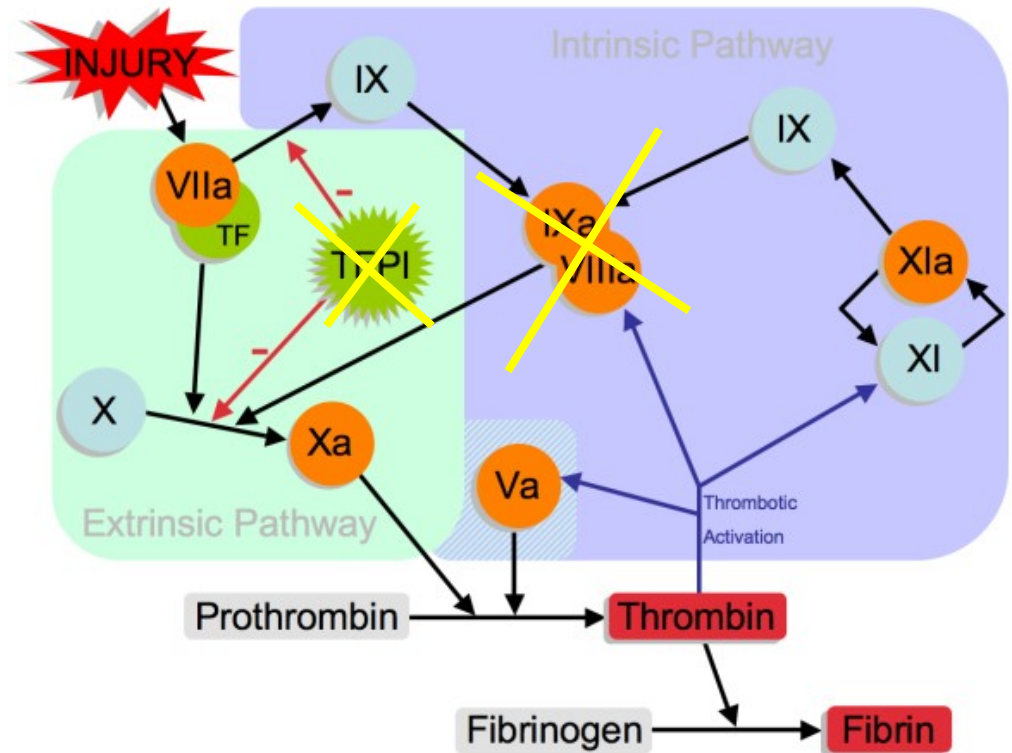
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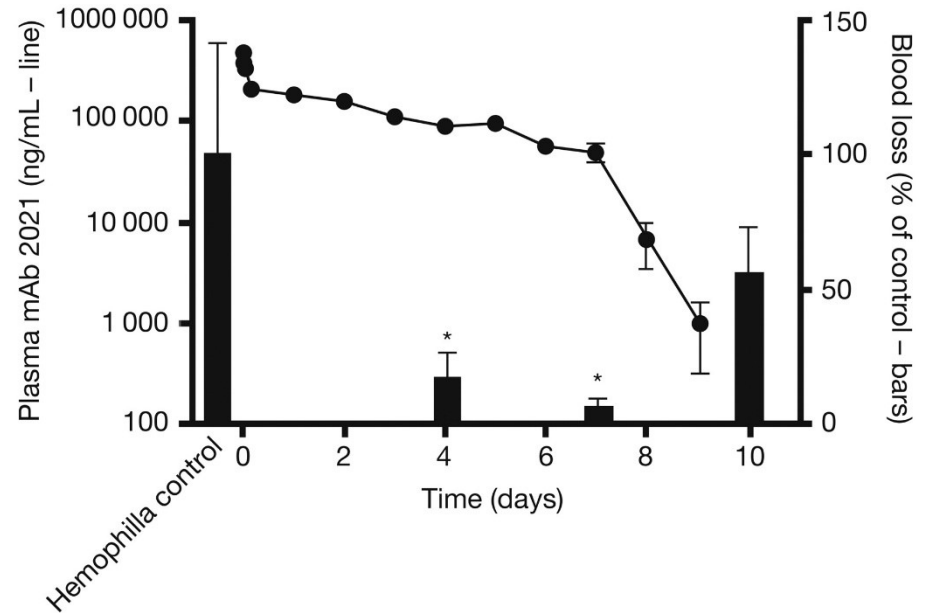


Popular concept

- Antibody to Kunitz 2 domain
 - Concizumab →
- Oligonucleotide aptamer
 - Phase 1 unsuccessful: increased bleeding, by interfering with clearance of TFPI
- Number of clinical studies starting to recruit



Concizumab



- Phase 1 data (incl 24 PWH): safe, allows for sc administration, indication of procoagulant effect

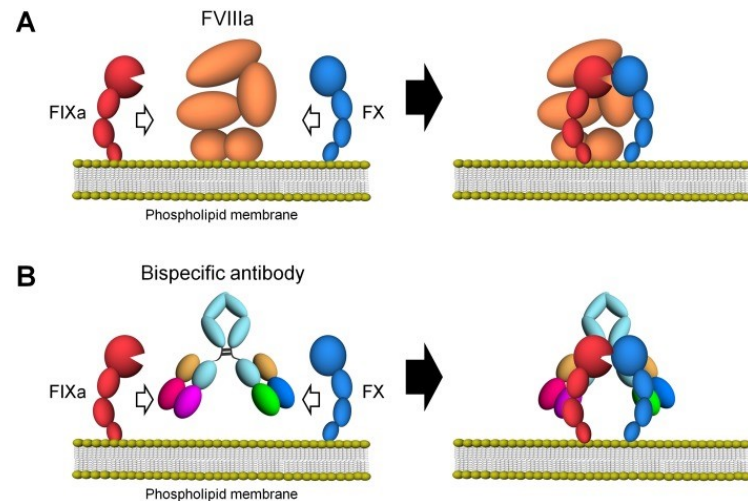
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Mimicry of cofactor function of VIII

- Anti-factor IXa/X bispecific antibody acts as factor VIII

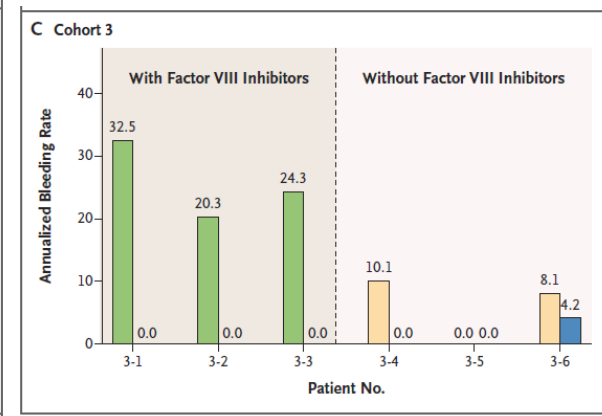
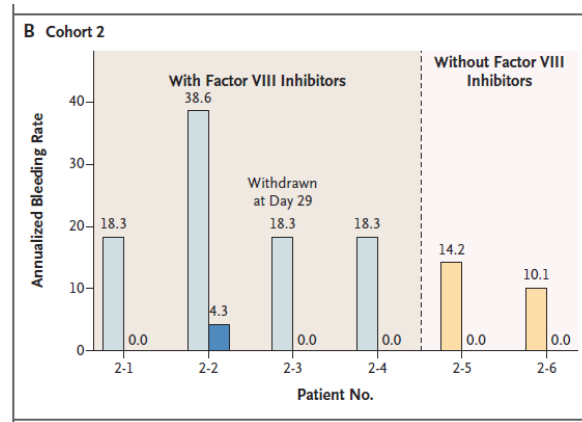
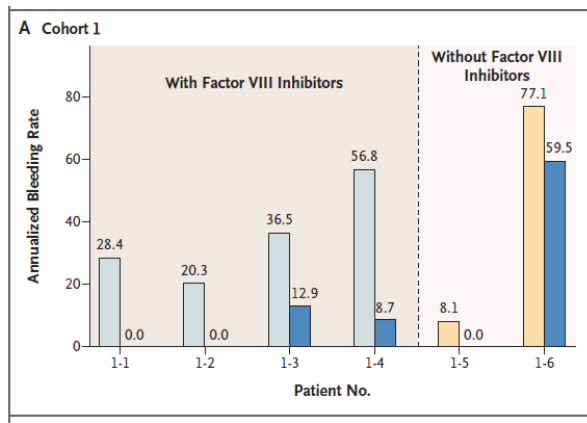


- ACE910, sc administration, long T $\frac{1}{2}$
- Potentially effective in inhibitor patients



Clinical data for emicizumab

- 18 PWH, with or without inhibitors
- Sc administration, 1x/wk
- No safety issues
- Impressive ↓ ABR in higher doses:



Non-clotting factor based approaches

- (Inhibition of fibrinolysis)
- Inhibition of TFPI
- Mimicry of cofactor function of VIII
- Reduction of antitrombin



ALN-AT3

- Small interference RNA, with modification to target hepatocytes
- Decreases expression of antitrombin gene
- Potentially applicable in all bleeding disorders, including inhibitors
- Phase 1 data: ↓ AT, ABR 2-4 in inhibitor patients, no signs of DIC





Clinical perspective, horizon of 3 years

- Routine clinical use of long-acting factor IX and intermediate-acting factor VIII
- TFPI inhibition accessible through clinical trials
- Gene therapy accessible for adult severe haemophilia B patients
- Rest of exciting new stuff will take longer



