



## World Haemophilia Day

**For Prelims:** World Haemophilia Day, World Federation of Haemophilia.

**For Mains:** Haemophilia and its treatment, Health.

### Why in News?

**World Haemophilia day** is celebrated on **17<sup>th</sup> April every year**, aiming to increase awareness about haemophilia and other inherited bleeding disorders.

- The day is **celebrated in the honour of Frank Schnabel**, founder of the World Federation of Haemophilia (WHF).
- **This year's (2022) theme** is "Access for All: Partnership. Policy. Progress. Engaging your government, integrating inherited bleeding disorders into national policy".

### What is Haemophilia?

- **About:**
  - Haemophilia is a medical condition, **mostly inherited, in which the ability of blood to clot is severely reduced**, so that even a **minor injury can cause severe bleeding**.
    - Haemophilia is caused by a mutation or change, in one of the genes, that provides instructions for making the clotting factor proteins needed to form a blood clot.
    - This change or mutation can prevent the clotting protein from working properly or to be missing altogether. These genes are **located on the X chromosome**.
  - Because of the genetics involved in the way the sex of a child is determined, **men are more vulnerable** to haemophilia than women.
  - It is quite a rare disease, about 1 in 10,000 people are born with it.
- **Types:**
  - The most common type of Haemophilia **is called Haemophilia A**. This means the person does not have enough **clotting factor VIII (factor eight)**.
  - **Haemophilia B is less common**. A person with Haemophilia B does not have enough **factor IX (factor nine)**.
    - Haemophilia A, occurs in about 1 in 5,000 births, while Haemophilia B is even rarer at about 1 in about 20,000 births.
- **Symptoms:**
  - Big bruises.
  - Bleeding into muscles and joints.
  - Spontaneous bleeding (sudden bleeding inside the body for no clear reason).
  - Prolonged bleeding after getting a cut, removing a tooth, or having surgery.
- **Treatment:**
  - The main treatment for Haemophilia is **Replacement Therapy**.
  - Concentrates of clotting factor VIII (for Haemophilia A) or clotting factor IX (for Haemophilia B) are slowly dripped or injected into a vein. These infusions help replace the clotting factor that is missing or low.

## What is the Indian Scenario of Haemophilia?

- According to the World Federation of Haemophilia's Annual Global Survey 2017, there were over **1.96 lakh persons living with haemophilia across the world in 2017.**
- In the country-wise data, **India emerges with the highest count at nearly 19,000.**
- It is estimated that 80% cases go unregistered, so that the actual count is close to 2 lakh.

### // REGISTERED CASES

India	18,966
US	17,750
China	14,390
Brazil	12,432
France	7,524
World	1,96,706

## What is the World Federation of Haemophilia (WFH)?

- It is an international not-for-profit organization that was established in 1963.
- It is a global network of patient organizations in 140 countries and has official recognition from the World Health Organization.
- Its mission is to improve and sustain care for people with inherited bleeding disorders around the world.

[Source: IE](#)

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