

Patient Name:

DOB:

MRN:

Injectable DDAVP – Patient Instruction Sheet

USE: DDAVP (desmopressin acetate) is a synthetic hormone used to increase the clotting factors in people with certain bleeding disorder including mild hemophilia A, type 1 von Willebrand disease, and some platelet dysfunction disorders.

ACTION: Temporarily improves factor 8 levels, von Willebrand factor levels and platelet function.

- Effect begins in 30 minutes, peaks in 90 minutes, and lasts approximately 12 hours.

DOSE: DDAVP Subcutaneous Injection (desmopressin acetate vial concentration 4mcg/ml)

- Dosage is determined by your weight in kilograms – 3 micrograms per kilogram.
 - At your current weight of _____,
 - Your dose is _____ micrograms (mcg) or _____ milliliters (ml's)
 - Divide your dose into _____ injections of _____ ml each.
- No injection should exceed 1.5ml. Notify your doctor or the Hemophilia Center if your weight changes by more than 10 pounds (your dose may need to be adjusted)
- Depending on your dose, each vial may contain 2-3 doses
- You can re-treat every 24-48 hours if necessary for up to three doses (after three doses, DDAVP will not be effective - call the Hemophilia Center for guidance)
- DDAVP is **not** intended for use with a major or life-threatening bleeding episode (ex: major surgery, bleed in spine, neck, or head, etc.)

STORAGE: Keep refrigerated and check the expiration date.

SIDE EFFECTS: Side effects are temporary and occur more frequently when DDAVP is given intravenously.

Common side effects may include:

- Slight increase in blood pressure or pulse
- Headache
- Nausea
- Facial flushing
- Dizziness
- Urinary retention
- Low sodium levels (stomach cramps, muscle weakness, headache, nausea, or vomiting)

PRECAUTIONS: To avoid low sodium levels, we recommend the following for 24 hours after DDAVP:

- **NO more than 1.5 liters oral and IV fluid combined**
- Avoid plain water and drink only enough to satisfy your thirst
 - Gatorade, Vitamin Water, etc. are good alternatives
- Eat salty foods and snacks
- Avoid drinking caffeine or alcohol
- Avoid strenuous workouts or activities that will cause significant sweating
- Do not take antidiuretics or “fluid pills” – talk to your doctor or nurse

Call the UNC Hemophilia Treatment Center for questions or concerns, (919) 966-4736 option #2.