





Things to know before you start treatment


 Your doctor or nurse practitioner will discuss with you what clotting factors you may need, as well as


- When and why you may need them
- How long you may need them for
- The benefits and potential risks
- Any treatment alternatives

 Your doctor or nurse practitioner will give you time to ask questions

 If you agree to treatment, you will need to sign a consent form to confirm you are happy to go ahead

 Because clotting factors are supplied as freeze-dried powders they take time to mix with sterile water to make a solution that can be injected into your bloodstream. They are given via a drip (or cannula) placed in your vein. The time it takes can vary from a few minutes to over 40 minutes, depending on how much clotting factor you need

 If bleeding does not stop completely, you might need a larger dose

 Clotting factors may be given by a health care professional in a hospital, or other health care facility. In some cases, you might be taught to self-administer them at home as part of your treatment

 **Always report any concerns or symptoms to your healthcare professional**

All reactions are reported to the New Zealand Blood Service (NZBS)

For more information
scan here to go to



[nzblood.co.nz/
patients](https://nzblood.co.nz/patients)



Consumer Medicine
Information
medsafe.govt.nz

If you have a bleeding disorder

The support organisation for people in NZ with haemophilia, von Willebrands, and other inherited bleeding disorders is Haemophilia NZ.

Phone: **0508 FACTOR (322 867)**

Email: **info@haemophilia.org.nz**

Scan here to go to their website

Haemophilia
New Zealand



Leaflet prepared and provided by New Zealand Blood Service,
Private Bag 92071, Victoria Street West, Auckland 1142.
71 Great South Road, Epsom, Auckland. Telephone: 09 523 5733.

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NZBLOOD

Your guide to blood transfusion

Intravenous Coagulation Factor Concentrates



Information for Patients

NZBLOOD
Te Ratonga Toto O Aotearoa

What are coagulation factors?

Coagulation (or clotting) factors are natural proteins found in your blood plasma, most are made by your liver. In total, there are 12 clotting factors that work together with other proteins to help stop bleeding and control clotting. If clotting factor levels are low in your bloodstream, blood will clot more slowly, and the clots will be weaker. Low levels of clotting factors (or a coagulopathy) means you will bleed more and for longer. How much bleeding will depend on your factor levels.

What are coagulation factor concentrates?

They are clotting factors collected from the plasma of New Zealand voluntary blood donors. The plasma is tested, processed and purified. The clotting factors are then freeze-dried and batched into small vials. Products available in New Zealand include:

BIOSTATE®: used to prevent or manage bleeding in von Willebrand Disorder (vWD). Very rarely, it may be used to treat haemophilia A. It contains von Willebrand factor (vWF) and factor VIII (FVIII).

BERIPLEX® NZ: used to stop the effects of the 'blood thinner' medicines like Warfarin. Very rarely, it is used to treat low factor levels due to other causes. It contains factors II, VII, IX and X.

Although rare, other proteins to help or control clotting, but sourced from

tested, processed and purified European plasma, may be used.

This can include **KYBERNIN® P** used to control clotting. It contains antithrombin, a naturally occurring anticoagulant found in plasma.

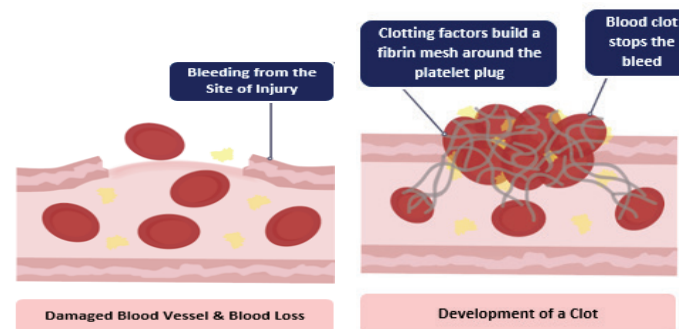
And, **RiaSTAP®** used to treat bleeding when the level of fibrinogen (factor I) is low in your bloodstream.

How does my body stop me from bleeding?

When a blood vessel is damaged, your body responds to the injury by:

- Narrowing the blood vessel to slow bleeding .
- Making a soft, sticky **platelet plug** (small cells found in blood). vWF keeps the platelets in place at the injury site.
- Building a strong **fibrin mesh** around the platelet plug (using your clotting factors).

Blood clotting is needed to stop bleeding and to help you to heal.



What are possible side effects of using coagulation factor concentrates?

Side effects are rare, they can include:

- Allergic reactions. If this occurs, your health care professional would stop or change your treatment.

- Abnormal clotting in the veins (thrombosis). Clotting factors are injected slowly to reduce the chance of this happening.
- Antibodies (called inhibitors) may develop against the injected clotting factors. An inhibitor can affect how your body stops bleeding. If this happens a change to your treatment may be needed.

How safe are coagulation factor concentrates?

The collection and processing of clotting factors from plasma is strictly controlled and regulated to ensure the product is safe. All blood donors in New Zealand (and Europe) must be in good health and meet strict health and lifestyle screening criteria before they can donate plasma.

Every plasma donation must test negative for blood-borne infections, such as syphilis, human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), hepatitis B (HBV) and hepatitis C (HCV).

When clotting factors are extracted from plasma, pathogen inactivation and removal (of viruses, bacteria and other microbes) are used to reduce the potential risk of transmitting disease.

Coagulation (clotting) factor concentrates provided by NZBS have not been reported to cause infections including syphilis, HIV, HBV, HCV, Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease (CJD) or variant CJD.