

Vital Link



...For Hoosiers Living with a Bleeding Disorder

October 2025

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2025 Hemophilia of Indiana Annual Meeting

The **2025 Annual Meeting** was held on **August 17–18** and **September 27–28** at the **Crowne Plaza Hotel – Indianapolis Airport**. The event was another great success, welcoming more than **125 members** of Indiana's bleeding disorders community for a weekend of **education, engagement, and support**.

The meeting began on Saturday with a **two-part general session** led by staff from **Innovative Hematology**. Topics included **Adolescent Mental Health, New Therapies and Treatments**, and the **Importance of Cardiovascular Health**—all vital areas of focus for our community.

Saturday afternoon featured a series of **breakout sessions** covering a wide range of topics such as **VWD Care, Food & Fitness, The Art of Gratitude, Self-Advocacy, Men's Health, Women's Health**, and more. Hemophilia of Indiana remains committed to offering educational opportunities that meet the diverse needs of all attendees, regardless of their bleeding disorder diagnosis.

The evening concluded with the **Annual Awards Dinner**, where we proudly recognized our **2025 Judy Scholarship Winners, Camp Brave Eagle Award Recipients**, and the **2025 Award Winners**. It was a wonderful night of celebration and community spirit.

Sunday morning featured a powerful keynote address by **Kathy Gerus-Darbison**, one of the bleeding disorders community's true "living legends." Kathy shared her moving personal story about the impact of the HIV/AIDS crisis on her family and the bleeding disorders community. She also introduced attendees to her remarkable **Stitches Doll Project**, which gives women affected by bleeding disorders a creative way to tell their stories.

To learn more about Kathy's work and the Stitches Doll Project, visit www.stitchesdollproject.org.

The 2025 Annual Meeting was an **inspiring weekend of learning, reflection, and connection**, and we are already looking forward to planning **next year's event**. Thank you to everyone who attended, volunteered, and supported this special weekend!



17TH ANNUAL
THXRUN
SUPPORTING HEMOPHILIA OF INDIANA



Location

DILLON PARK: NOBLESVILLE, IN

Date

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 27TH

THXRUN.COM



Navigating Flu Season: Top Tips

The temperature has started to drop, and the leaves have begun to change. The transition to fall also marks the beginning of flu season.

Flu season is most common between October and May, with the peak of the season starting in December. People that are at higher risk may experience symptoms differently than others. Individuals at higher risk include those aged 65 and older, as well as people with heart disease, a history of stroke, diabetes, lung conditions such as asthma, chronic illnesses, weakened immune systems, a history of cancer, or obesity.

Innovative Hematology is here to help patients navigate flu season with their bleeding disorders. Here are our tips for you:

1

Wash Your Hands Regularly

Wash your hands with soap and warm water for at least 20 seconds to prevent spreading germs.

2

Get Your Flu Shot

The flu vaccine helps build your body's tolerance to the flu virus. If you have an appointment coming up, ask about getting your flu shot.

3

Track Symptoms

Symptoms may include fever, headache, muscle aches, fatigue, cough, runny/stuffy nose, nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea.

Sometimes, despite best efforts, you may still find yourself under the weather. Seek medical attention if you have trouble breathing or chest pain, persistent fever or cough, severe vomiting, or inability to keep fluids down.

New Patient Portal

As of November 4, 2025, Innovative Hematology will no longer use Klara secure texting. To keep all patients' health information and messages in one safe and secure place, we're moving all messaging to athenaPatient Portal. Download the athenaPatient mobile app for easy access on your phone or tablet.



Download for Android



Download for iOS



8326 Naab Road,
Indianapolis, IN 46260
Tel: 317.871.0000
innovativehematology.org

For routine prophylaxis in patients 12 years and older with hemophilia A or B without inhibitors

HYMPAVZI™
marstacimab-hncq
injection | 150 mg/mL

Juggling new routines is complicated.

Help keep hemophilia treatment simple with HYMPAVZI.

Once weekly. Ready to use.
No mandatory treatment-related lab monitoring.



Not actual size.

What is HYMPAVZI?

HYMPAVZI is a prescription medicine used to prevent or reduce the frequency of bleeding episodes in adults and children 12 years of age and older with hemophilia A without factor VIII inhibitors or hemophilia B without factor IX inhibitors.

It is not known if HYMPAVZI is safe and effective in children younger than 12 years old.

IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION

Important: Before you start using HYMPAVZI, it is very important to talk to your healthcare provider about using factor VIII and factor IX products (products that help blood clot but work in a different way than HYMPAVZI). You may need to use factor VIII or factor IX medicines to treat episodes of breakthrough bleeding during treatment with HYMPAVZI. Carefully follow your healthcare provider's instructions regarding when to use factor VIII or factor IX medicines and the prescribed dose during your treatment with HYMPAVZI.

Before using HYMPAVZI, tell your healthcare provider about all of your medical conditions, including if you:

- have a planned surgery. Your healthcare provider may stop treatment with HYMPAVZI before your surgery. Talk to your healthcare provider about when to stop using HYMPAVZI and when to start it again if you have a planned surgery.
- have a severe short-term (acute) illness such as an infection or injury.
- are pregnant or plan to become pregnant. HYMPAVZI may harm your unborn baby.

Females who are able to become pregnant:

- Your healthcare provider will do a pregnancy test before you start your treatment with HYMPAVZI.
- You should use effective birth control (contraception) during treatment with HYMPAVZI and for at least 2 months after the last dose of HYMPAVZI.



Ask your doctor about HYMPAVZI today.
Visit HYMPAVZI.com to learn more.

- Tell your healthcare provider right away if you become pregnant or think that you may be pregnant during treatment with HYMPAVZI.
- are breastfeeding or plan to breastfeed. It is not known if HYMPAVZI passes into your breast milk.

Tell your healthcare provider about all the medicines you take, including prescription medicines, over-the-counter medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements.

What are the possible side effects of HYMPAVZI?

HYMPAVZI may cause serious side effects, including:

- **blood clots (thromboembolic events).** HYMPAVZI may increase the risk for your blood to clot. Blood clots may form in blood vessels in your arm, leg, lung, or head and can be life-threatening. Get medical help right away if you develop any of these signs or symptoms of blood clots: swelling or pain in arms or legs; redness or discoloration in your arms or legs; shortness of breath; pain in chest or upper back; fast heart rate; cough up blood; feel faint; headache; numbness in your face; eye pain or swelling; trouble seeing
- **allergic reactions.** Allergic reactions, including rash and itching have happened in people treated with HYMPAVZI. Stop using HYMPAVZI and get medical help right away if you develop any of the following symptoms of a severe allergic reaction: swelling of your face, lips, mouth, or tongue; trouble breathing; wheezing; dizziness or fainting; fast heartbeat or pounding in your chest; sweating

The most common side effects of HYMPAVZI are injection site reactions, headache, and itching.

These are not all the possible side effects of HYMPAVZI. Call your doctor for medical advice about side effects. You may report side effects to the FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088.

Please see the following page for Important Facts about HYMPAVZI.



IMPORTANT FACTS



Important information: Before you start using HYMPAVZI, it is very important to talk to your healthcare provider about using factor VIII and factor IX products

(products that help blood clot but work in a different way than HYMPAVZI). You may need to use factor VIII or factor IX medicines to treat episodes of breakthrough bleeding during treatment with HYMPAVZI. Carefully follow your healthcare provider's instructions regarding when to use factor VIII or factor IX medicines and the prescribed dose during your treatment with HYMPAVZI.

What is HYMPAVZI used for?

HYMPAVZI is a prescription medicine used to prevent or reduce the frequency of bleeding episodes in adults and children 12 years of age and older with hemophilia A without factor VIII inhibitors or hemophilia B without factor IX inhibitors.

It is not known if HYMPAVZI is safe and effective in children younger than 12 years old.

What should I tell my healthcare provider before using HYMPAVZI?

Tell your healthcare provider about all your medical conditions, including if you:

- have a planned surgery. Talk to your healthcare provider about when to stop using HYMPAVZI and when to start it again if you have a planned surgery.
- have a severe short-term (acute) illness such as an infection or injury.
- are pregnant or plan to become pregnant. HYMPAVZI may harm your unborn baby.

Females who are able to become pregnant:

- Your healthcare provider will do a pregnancy test before you start your treatment with HYMPAVZI.
- You should use effective birth control (contraception) during treatment with HYMPAVZI and for 2 months after the last dose of HYMPAVZI.
- Tell your healthcare provider right away if you become pregnant or think that you may be pregnant during treatment with HYMPAVZI.
- are breastfeeding or plan to breastfeed. It is not known if HYMPAVZI passes into your breast milk.

Tell your healthcare provider about all the medicines you take, including prescription medicines, over-the-counter medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements.

How should I use HYMPAVZI?

See the detailed "Instructions for Use" that comes with your HYMPAVZI for information on how to inject a dose of HYMPAVZI, and how to properly throw away (dispose of) used HYMPAVZI prefilled syringe or HYMPAVZI prefilled pen.

- Use HYMPAVZI exactly as prescribed by your healthcare provider.
- Your healthcare provider will provide information on the treatment of breakthrough bleeding during your treatment with HYMPAVZI. **Do not** use HYMPAVZI to treat breakthrough bleeding.

What warnings should I know about HYMPAVZI?

HYMPAVZI may cause serious side effects, including:

- **blood clots (thromboembolic events).** HYMPAVZI may increase the risk for your blood to clot in blood vessels in your arm, leg, lung, or head and can be life-threatening. Get medical help right away if you develop any of these signs or symptoms of blood clots:
 - swelling or pain in arms or legs
 - redness or discoloration in your arms or legs
 - shortness of breath
 - pain in chest or upper back
 - fast heart rate
 - cough up blood
 - feel faint
 - headache
 - numbness in your face
 - eye pain or swelling
 - trouble seeing
- **allergic reactions.** Allergic reactions, including rash and itching have happened in people treated with HYMPAVZI. Stop using HYMPAVZI and get medical help right away if you develop any of the following symptoms of a severe allergic reaction:
 - swelling of your face, lips, mouth, or tongue
 - trouble breathing
 - wheezing
 - dizziness or fainting
 - fast heartbeat or pounding in your chest
 - sweating

The most common side effects of HYMPAVZI are injection site reactions, including:

- itching
- swelling
- hardening
- redness
- bruising
- pain

Headache and itching were also common side effects. A serious side effect of swelling in the legs happened in one patient in the clinical trial.

These are not all of the possible side effects of HYMPAVZI. Call your doctor for medical advice about side effects. For more information, ask your doctor.

This information is not comprehensive. How to get more information:

- Talk to your health care provider or pharmacist
- Visit www.HYMPAVZI.com to obtain the FDA-approved product labeling
- Call 1-888-HYMPAV-Z

You are encouraged to report negative side effects of prescription drugs to the FDA. Visit www.fda.gov/medwatch or call 1-800-FDA-1088.



Pfizer Inc., 66 Hudson Blvd East, New York, NY 10001

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Innovative Hematology

Indiana Hemophilia & Thrombosis Center

Helping you thrive with a bleeding disorder all in one place

No matter where you are in Indiana, we will extend our care to you.



Innovative Hematology and the IHTC provide care in Indianapolis and across the state through locally based medical professionals, home visits, outreach clinics, and telehealth.

Lifespan bleeding disorder care

Innovative Hematology is home to the Indiana Hemophilia & Thrombosis Center (IHTC), providing advanced care for both adult and pediatric patients with rare bleeding and blood disorders. Our care truly spans a lifetime. There are many changes in life, and our team works to support you through all of them.

The care you need—all in one place

We realize medical appointments take time away from your life. We work to make the most of your visit to decrease the need to go other places for services. Our team, including hematologists, advanced practice providers, mental health professionals, physical therapists, genetic counselors, a nutritionist, and more, are available to you when you need them.

Visit [InnovativeHematology.org](https://www.InnovativeHematology.org)

Innovative Hematology • 877.CLOTTER
8326 Naab Road • Indianapolis, IN 46260

Doug Thompson Teen Leadership Camp (DTTLC)

The **Doug Thompson Teen Leadership Camp (DTTLC)** is a leadership experience for teen males and females with bleeding disorders, ages **14–18**. The camp was created in memory of our beloved friend and colleague, **Doug Thompson**, whose passion for mentoring teens and helping them navigate the formative years of life continues to inspire this program today.

The **DTTLC Program** is designed to give teen members of the bleeding disorders community an opportunity to **develop and refine essential life skills** while enjoying an **adventure camp experience**. Each year, **10 teen leaders** are selected to participate in the program, which focuses on growth, responsibility, and connection.

DTTLC is guided by **four main goals**:

- 1. To develop self-confidence** through challenging and rewarding activities.
- 2. To prepare participants for adulthood**, encouraging responsibility for their health and helping them take steps toward college admission.
- 3. To foster personal growth** through reasonable risk-taking and physical activities.
- 4. To build community and lasting friendships** among young people with bleeding disorders.

This year's camp was held in **Bagley, Wisconsin**, and welcomed **12 enthusiastic campers**. Activities included **kayaking, canoeing, hiking, volleyball**, and much more! A camp favorite was the lively **"Chopped" Challenge**, where campers showcased their creativity and teamwork to prepare delicious and imaginative meals.

The 2025 Doug Thompson Teen Leadership Camp was an unforgettable experience filled with **learning, laughter, and leadership**—a true reflection of Doug's legacy and his belief in the potential of every young leader.

Thank you!

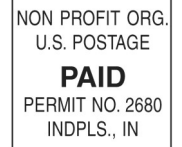
2025 Doug Thompson
Teen Leadership Camp
Sponsors

Thank you!





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*The material provided in Vital Link is only for general information purposes. HoII does not give medical advice or engage in the practice of medicine. HoII recommends in all cases that you consult your physician or HTC before pursuing any course of treatment.

Mark your Calendars!

- 2025 HoII THXRUN - November 27th
- 2025 Year End Education Event - December 6th
- 2026 Hearts for Hemophilia Gala - February 6th, 2026

Call our office @ (317) 570-0039 or email Kristy McConnell @ kmccconnell@hoii.org if you would like to get involved in any of our events!

- Check out our social media pages for updates!!!

