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Von Willebrand Disease

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Introduction

The topic that this nurse has chosen to investigate is a condition known as von Willebrand Disease (VWD). This nurse, in collaboration with the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), has developed a presentation based on the latest research about VWD. The presentation aims to educate the audience about the condition, its diagnosis, and management.

Pathophysiological Processes

Signs and symptoms

Von Willebrand disease is a disorder of the blood clotting process that can lead to a person having a greater chance of bleeding. The condition is caused by a factor VIII, which is responsible for initiating blood clotting. People with VWD have lower levels of factor VIII in their blood, making it harder for their blood to clot properly. This can lead to a greater chance of bleeding when injured, which can be a serious problem for some people.

Underlying Pathophysiology

Signs and symptoms may vary from person to person depending on the level of residual factor VIII. The condition can range from mild to severe, depending on the amount of factor VIII present in the blood. People with VWD may experience easy bruising, prolonged bleeding, or bleeding that is more extensive than expected after minor injuries. Some people may not experience any symptoms, while others may experience more severe symptoms, such as heavy bleeding, heavy menstrual periods, and prolonged bleeding after surgery or dental procedures.

Women with VWD also suffer other forms of abnormal female bleeding such as bleeding with ovulation resulting in a hemorrhagic ovarian cyst or postmenopausal bleeding. Anecdotal experience remains low due to the individual's condition. Prolonged bleeding may not always be apparent.

Antepartum bleeding, postpartum to severe postpartum hemorrhage, and postpartum hemorrhage's increased by two to ten-fold in women with VWD (James, 2013). In 35% of cases with type 1 VWD, no disease manifestations are detected. One theory is the contribution to variability of type and the ABO blood group. ABO groups' levels are the lowest in patients of "O" blood (Klikert, 2017). In acquired VWD, the most common cause include: Cardiovascular disease such as atrial fibrillation, which leads to a significant increase in vWF levels. "A disorder of the blood's ability to clot properly," a greater risk for joint bleeding which results in a lower quality of life than those of the population with normal blood clotting, and the patient may be at risk for bleeding complications. The disease was first described in 1926 by a nurse who is a child, which is a hallmark presentation of Von Willebrand Disease (VWD).

According to the CDC, this nurse seeks to find out what about patients that may be suffering from VWD. This nurse sought out to investigate a blood disorder due to a personal affiliation with a child that was experiencing similar signs and symptoms of VWD. VWD is a disorder that although complications can occur, many individuals thrive and lead a healthy life with the right education and resources.

Significance of Pathophysiology

Women with VWD experience a history of endometrial hyperplasia. Of the high recurrence of women that experience heavy menstrual bleeding (HMB) with no explanation has reported to range from 5% to 30% of adolescents.

In 35% of cases with type 1 VWD, no disease manifestations are detected. One theory is the contribution to variability of type and the ABO blood group. ABO groups' levels are the lowest in patients of "O" blood (Klikert, 2017). In acquired VWD, the most common cause include: Cardiovascular disease such as atrial fibrillation, which leads to a significant increase in vWF levels. "A disorder of the blood's ability to clot properly," a greater risk for joint bleeding which results in a lower quality of life than those of the population with normal blood clotting, and the patient may be at risk for bleeding complications. The disease was first described in 1926 by a nurse who is a child, which is a hallmark presentation of Von Willebrand Disease (VWD).

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