



JULY 2008 - VOL. 7, NO.3

The WFH Safety & Supply News is an electronic newsletter on the safety, supply, and availability of hemophilia treatment products. The publication provides reliable, timely summaries of news and new developments in products, viral safety, and gene therapy.

You can also view [Safety & Supply News online](#).

Maxygen gets approval for factor VIIa test in U.K., sells hemophilia unit to Bayer

A next-generation recombinant factor VIIa protein known as MAXY-VII is expected to enter Phase 1 clinical testing in the third quarter of 2008. <http://www.maxygen.com/>

Bayer HealthCare is acquiring Maxygen's hemophilia division, including its recombinant factor VIIa protein. <http://www.maxygen.com>

Possible sale of Talecris?

An article in the Financial Times discusses rumors that investor Cerberus may sell US-based plasma fractionator Talecris instead of putting it up for an initial public offering. <http://us.ft.com/>

FDA advice on storing biologics during natural disasters

The US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has published advice on storing biologics, including clotting factor concentrates, during outages and floods. <http://www.fda.gov>

AMA calls five-year blood donor deferral for MSM "supportable"

The American Medical Association (AMA) has published a report which states "With respect to the MSM [men who have sex with men] population, it appears that a policy change from a permanent lifetime deferral to a 5-year deferral following the last MSM contact may be supportable, but societal and ethical consequences must be analyzed should this decision be advanced." The FDA maintains the lifetime ban. <http://www.ama-assn.org>

Finnish review finds Red Cross MSM policy justified

The Ombudsman of Finland has declared that the fact the Finnish Red Cross's Blood Transfusion Service has made sex between men a permanent deferral to donating blood cannot be considered unlawful. <http://www.oikeusasiamies.fi/>

Ongoing problems with American Red Cross Blood Services

The New York Times reported on continuing quality control issues at American Red Cross Blood Services and the suggestion that the blood collection branch be split off from the rest of the organization, as took place in Canada. <http://www.nytimes.com>

New draft directive on patient mobility in European Union

The European Commission has published its proposal for a Directive on the application of patients' rights in cross-border health care. The directive is set to clarify the right of patients to seek health care in another EU country while being reimbursed by their national system. <http://www.euractiv.com/en>

US Congress passes bill to lift HIV travel ban

The US Congress has passed and sent to the President a bill that funds the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) and removes the long-standing ban on visitors to the US with HIV. The WFH and US National Hemophilia Foundation jointly sent letters to congressional leadership stating, "Of particular importance to our community is the provision eliminating the ban on travel to the US for people who are affected by HIV, as well as the strong focus on the need to prevent HIV transmission through appropriate education and medical care."

www.wfh.org (Senate)

www.wfh.org (House of Representatives)

WFH World Congress

The WFH World Congress held in Istanbul, Turkey, June 1-5, broke records by attracting more than 4200 participants from over 115 countries. This makes it the largest WFH Congress ever. The WFH will be posting congress information on our website over the next few weeks, including summaries of selected sessions, as well as abstracts and the state of the art papers, published in Haemophilia, the official journal of the World Federation of Hemophilia.

Events

XXI Annual Conference of the European Haemophilia Consortium (EHC)

12-14 September 2008 – Dublin, Ireland

<http://www.ehc.eu/>

5th Congress of the Asian-Pacific Society on Thrombosis and Haemostasis

18-20 September 2008 – Singapore

<http://www.apsth2008.com/>

Prion2008

8-10 October – Madrid, Spain

www.prion2008.com

The 32nd World Congress of the International Society of Hematology (ISH)

19-23 October 2008 – Bangkok, Thailand

<http://www.ish2008.org>

50th ASH Annual Meeting

Mark Brooker
Senior Public Policy Officer
1425 René Lévesque Blvd. West, Suite 1010
Montréal, QC, H3G 1T7, Canada
Tel.: +1 (514) 875-7944
Fax: +1 (514) 875-8916
E-mail: mbrooker@wfh.org
www.wfh.org

Published bi-monthly by the World Federation of Hemophilia.
Next issue: September 2008

Editorial Board: Albert Farrugia, PhD (Australia); Claudia Black, WFH (Canada); Alison Street, MD (Australia); Keith Hoots, MD (U.S.A.); Elizabeth Myles, WFH (Canada); Brian O'Mahony (Ireland); David Page (Canada), Mark Skinner (U.S.A.); Mike Soucie, PhD (U.S.A.); Alok Srivastava, MD (India)

Editor: Mark Brooker, WFH

To subscribe or unsubscribe to the WFH Safety and Supply News, please send your name and email address to aryan@wfh.org

Permission to translate and/or reprint all contents of the *Safety and Supply News* is granted to interested non-profit hemophilia organizations, with prior approval and appropriate acknowledgment of the WFH. Permission does not extend to reproduction, in whole or in part, for sale or use in conjunction with commercial purposes.