

Memorandum of Understanding

BETWEEN:

University of Damascus

Halbouni Street, Damascus
SYRIA
(hereafter referred to as "UOD")

– and –

WORLD FEDERATION OF HEMOPHILIA

1425 René Lévesque boulevard west, suite 1010,
Montréal, Québec H3G 1T7
CANADA
(hereafter referred to as "WFH")

WHEREAS there exists the need to help people with hemophilia living in Syria;

WHEREAS UOD is willing to continue providing services to patients with hemophilia in Syria;

WHEREAS WFH helps in the establishment of national preventive care programs for patients with hemophilia in all countries of the world;

WHEREAS the purpose of this Memorandum is to set out the agreement reached between UOD and WFH to collaborate in respect of developing an infrastructure, a national hemophilia care program in Syria, hereafter referred to as the "Program" and a national referral Centre for hemophilia and other Bleeding disorders(NRCH);

THEREFORE taking into account these above considerations and mutual promises, covenants and undertakings herein contained and other good and valuable considerations, the parties hereby agree as follows:

ARTICLE 1 AGREEMENT ON PROGRAM

Following the visit of representatives of WFH to Syria from August 11-15, 2008, a verbal agreement was concluded between the WFH delegation and the UOD President to start a National Hemophilia Care Program in Syria in 2009. This verbal agreement was confirmed through UOD letter dated September 10, 2008. Having agreed on this collaboration, the parties expressed readiness to fulfill specific activities intended to raise the level of hemophilia care and to ensure a constant and sufficient supply of clotting factor concentrates in Syria. A draft three-year program plan was prepared by WFH with the support of the Syrian Hemophilia Society (SHS). The plan was submitted to the UOD during the visit and endorsed by the university officials. The final version of the program plan is attached in **Annex 1**.

ARTICLE 2 DETAILS OF PROGRAM

2. **Purpose of the Program:** The purpose of the Program is to develop and strengthen, within three years, the level of the national preventive care program for patients with hemophilia (PWH) in Syria. The Program will be implemented by Damascus University working together with the Syrian Hemophilia Society, its medical community and other health systems in Syria, under the guidance of WFH. The Program will focus on four main areas, namely:

- Care delivery system
- Medical expertise
- Supply of treatment products
- Patient organization

See attached Program in **Annex 1** for details

Monitoring: The parties agree on the participation of the Syrian Hemophilia Society in the activities and monitoring of the hemophilia programs of the WFH and the UOD.

Duration: The Program covers a three-year period, from January 2009 to January 2012.

**ARTICLE 3
 ROLE OF WFH**

2. The WFH expresses readiness to ensure the implementation of the activities under the program, which include:
 - 3.1 Visit Syria 1-2 times per year to follow up and help evaluate progress of the Program;
 - 3.2 Make recommendations to the UOD and the Syrian Hemophilia Society, on further action steps that would ensure the development of the national care system;
 - 3.3 Purchase of equipment, material and reagents for the National Referral Centre for Hemophilia and other Bleeding Disorders (NRCH); registration with International External Quality Assessment Scheme (IEQAS);
 - 3.4 Development of referral system in regions;
 - 3.5 Specialized hemophilia training fellowships abroad for selected staff of the NRCH (hematologist, orthopedist, physiotherapist, laboratory scientist) and on-site training (**Annex 3**);
 - 3.6 Upgrade of a computerized system for the NRCH/NMO national patient registry;
 - 3.7 Donation of 250,000 IU of clotting factor concentrates over a three-year period;
 - 3.8 Distribution of Arabic WFH educational publications to patients & regional outreach to identify PWH in rural areas;
 - 3.9 On-site organizational skills training for the Syrian Hemophilia Society.

**ARTICLE 4
 ROLE OF UOD**

3. The UOD expresses readiness to:
 - 4.1 Develop and maintain a national hemophilia program in Syria integrated within the health care system with adequate financial and human resources;
 - 4.2 Establish a National Referral Centre for Hemophilia and other Bleeding Disorders, NRCH (**Annex 4**);
 - 4.3 Appoint a GAP Program Coordinator to coordinate and follow up all GAP activities, represent UOD in all relevant meetings and be the director of the NRCH (**Annex 5**);
 - 4.4 Supply people with hemophilia in Syria with clotting factor concentrates;

- 4.5 Support the operational costs of the NRCH, which include staff salaries, reagents and maintenance of equipment;
- 4.6 Provide practical support for the implementation of the Program described above.

ARTICLE 5 FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE PROGRAM

- 5.1 **WFH** will be responsible for assuming any and all costs associated with the activities outlined in Article 3 above:
- 5.2 **UOD** will be responsible for assuming any and all costs associated with the activities outlined in Article 4 above:
- 5.3 Details of the financial contributions associated with the program activities and their costs are attached in **Annex 2** (Terms of Collaboration between WFH and the UOD dated January 2009) of the present Memorandum of Understanding.

ARTICLE 6 EVENTUALITIES

If major changes occur to the Program process or if the Program is curtailed before its completion due to unforeseen circumstances, either Party will inform the other with the details of the change and any other pertinent information;

ARTICLE 7 OBLIGATIONS

7. **Obligations:** Each Party agrees that in conducting the Program's activities, it will attend to the following:
 - 7.1 Keep copies of all relevant documents, including correspondence used in carrying out the Program;
 - 7.2 Provide, through the National Program Coordinator and the SHS, progress reports concerning the Program's activities;
 - 7.3 Provide upon request of the other Party all of the above-noted documentation for audit and verification.


**ARTICLE 8
GENERAL PROVISIONS**

- 8.1 **Entire Memorandum:** This Memorandum of Understanding and the attached Annex 1, Annex 2, Annex 3 , Annex 4 and Annex 5 constitute the entire understanding among the Parties pertaining to the subject matter hereof, and supersede all prior understandings, negotiations and discussions, whether oral or written, of the Parties.
- 8.2 **Invalid Provisions:** Every provision of this Memorandum is intended to be independent. If any term or provision hereof is illegal or invalid for any reason whatsoever, such illegality shall not affect the validity of the remainder of this Memorandum.
- 8.3 **Currency:** Unless otherwise indicated, all dollar amounts referred to in this Agreement are in US funds.
- 8.4 **Termination of the Memorandum:** Each Party may terminate this Memorandum of Understanding at any time upon notice to the other effective immediately in the event of a default by the other Party of any of the terms of this Memorandum. In the event of any termination, each Party shall refund forthwith to the contributing Party all sums of money entrusted to it but which have not been expended in accordance with the approved budget and all property entrusted to it but which have not been expended in accordance with this Memorandum.
- 8.5 **Other Health Systems:** Other health authorities in Syria, like the Ministry of Health (MOH), could be added to this agreement and be covered by the services provided in this agreement through a follow up phase of the program.
- 8.6 This Memorandum has been composed in Montreal in September 2008 and shall take effect after ratification and signature by both Parties:

Date: November 24, 2008

WORLD FEDERATION OF HEMOPHILIA

The President
Mr. Mark Skinner



University of Damascus

The President
Prof. Wael Mualla

