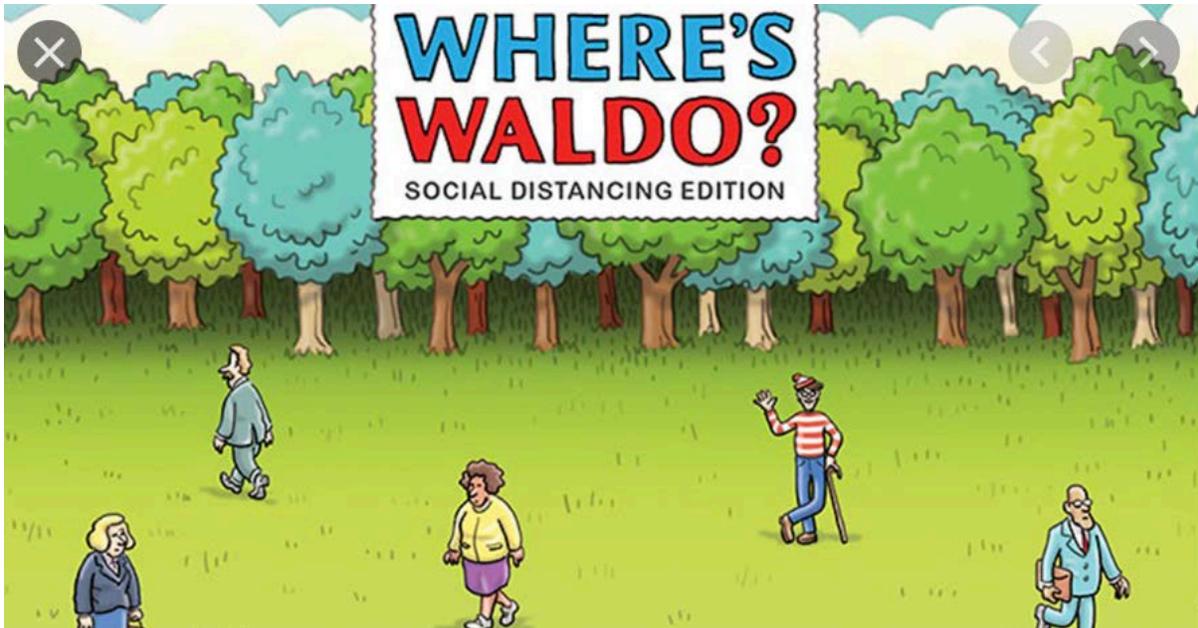




**COVID19 UPDATE: Edition #3**

**March 30, 2020**



**Now known as “Physical distancing”**

**How is everyone doing?** The clinic still remains open, accessible and committed to ensuring your bleeding disorder care is a priority. Some of our clinic staff are working from home and internet surge issues may require some staff to work hours in the evenings. As usual, after hours and weekends there is a hematologist on call at St Paul's Hospital.

**For the latest COVID 19 information:** [BCCDC](#) and [Health Canada](#)

**If you are thinking you need to present to the hospital in person, please call us first so we can provide guidance.**

Now more than ever, please be mindful of the potential for injury with the activities you choose. [Parks closing.](#)

How to talk to family and friends who ignore physical distancing appeals [click here](#)

**When do you need to see us in clinic at St Paul's Hospital?**

1. If you are having an acute bleed that requires assessment by a healthcare provider.
2. If you are having an urgent procedure that cannot be delayed and you require an in person visit or review prior to the procedure.
3. For urgent lab work that can only be done at St Paul's Hospital



\*\*\*\*\* **BREAKING NEWS** \*\*\*\*\*

**If you have a scheduled procedure/labour and delivery?**

PHC and VCHA hospitals are prioritizing emergent and urgent patients for surgical procedures as well as cancelling elective surgical procedures. This is to increase capacity to the system to care for sick patients, and to keep well patients away from facilities. Urgent procedures or deliveries will be managed with ongoing coordination between your Bleeding Disorders team and other medical teams. **Please email or call the clinic to update us on procedure cancellations.**

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**How to prepare for your upcoming virtual/phone appointment?**

Please have a recent weight and think about any goals or questions you may have for the team. Over the coming weeks we will be trying new virtual platforms for telehealth please be patient as we perfect the use. If you were booked to be seen in Kelowna we will be contacting you to change this to a virtual health appointment.

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**What you need to pick up factor.**

Please follow the guidelines on “social distancing” stay 2 meters or 6 feet apart from other people.

**Hospital Access:** Hospitals are implementing variable hospital access restrictions to visitors and the public. When you pick up factor ensure you **bring the authorization letter** with you to the hospital. Please inform us immediately if you experienced an issue with the pickup of your factor. This letter can be found on our [website](#)

**Someone else is picking up my factor:** If you are unable to pick up your factor, you will need to complete the **authorization letter for someone else to pick up your factor** indicating the designee who is to pick up the factor on your behalf. If you are not able to have face-to-face communication with the designated person, you can email or text the person a picture of your BC Care Card and signed letter. If you anticipate any barriers to picking up factor product or receiving care please let us know. This letter can be found on our [website](#).

\*\*\*\*\* **ONGOING INFORMATION** \*\*\*\*\*

**To access information about the following subjects sent out in our prior emails, go to our website: [link](#)**

1. What if I have a difficult bleed and would normally go to ER
2. Ordering factor
3. What if I am self-quarantined and cannot pick up my factor
4. Ordering infusion supplies from Product Distribution Centre (PDC).
5. Does my bleeding disorder put me a higher risk of serious effects of COVID 19?
6. Should nonsteroidal anti-inflammatories (NSAIDS) should not be used to treat symptoms of COVID-19.
7. Can I still donate blood

Kind Regards,

The Adult Bleeding Disorder Team

