

The UWDTTEST.COM Tool

This website is a resource to offer support to people that might be affected by the von Willebrand disease (VWD) and to the doctors who manage it. This online bleeding assessment tool can be used to detect whether a bleeding disorder is present.

The additional content and resources on VWDtest.com are conceived to lend support to the identification of VWD symptoms. VWD is usually diagnosed in a centre specialised in bleeding disorders and capable of offering assistance in the choice of adequate treatments as well.

The site is available in several languages, including Italian, French, English, Spanish and Arab. This is the link to the Italian version:

<https://uwdtest.com/?lang=it>

The website is also accessible from a smartphone or tablet by scanning this QR code:



MINISTERO
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TUSCAN HAEMOPHILIAC ASSOCIATION (A.T.E.)

A.T.E. is an association made up of people who have a direct relationship with haemophilia.

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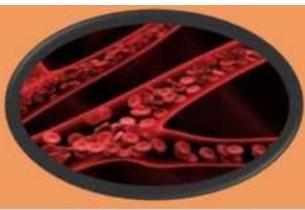


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VON WILLEBRAND TEST





What are the most common signs and symptoms of VWD?

The symptoms of the disease can include easy bruising, prolonged bleeding from minor wounds as well, frequent or copious nose bleeding, bleeding from the gums and abundant menstrual bleeding (menorrhagia). Prolonged or excessive bleeding can also occur as a result of childbirth, surgeries, tooth extraction and traumas.

More severe but less common bleeding events consist in gastrointestinal bleeding, hematomas (blood spills) and hemarthrosis (bleeding in the joints).

Many people suffering from VWD experience excessive or prolonged bleeding only during a surgery or a trauma. Others can bleed more frequently and sometimes without any clear underlying cause.



How is VWD diagnosed?

VWD is usually diagnosed in a centre specialised in bleeding disorders. It is important to request the opinion of a specialist if you display bleeding symptoms for which the presence of VWD is suspected, since some doctors might be familiar with the disease and how to manage it.

The sooner you get an accurate diagnosis, the sooner you will be able to make informed choices.

Several factors are taken into account when diagnosing VWD, such as:

- Current symptoms, previous bleeding episodes concerning your person or your family environment. A questionnaire can be resorted to in order to assess bleeding symptoms, for example: <https://vwdtest.com/?lang=it>.
- Laboratory Tests that verify the quantity of VWF and its operation and the quantity of Factor VIII (FVIII)
- An analysis of gene mutations when possible.

What is the von Willebrand disease (VWD)?

VWD is a bleeding disorder. It is caused by gene mutations that trigger low circulating levels of the Von Willebrand factor (VWF), or a VWF functioning incorrectly. VWF plays an important role in blood clotting by causing platelets to adhere to the wall of blood vessels and by protecting Factor VIII, a protein that accelerates clotting if need be.

VWD is classified under three main types:

- Type 1: patients with a partial reduction of VWF. It is the most common type (approximately 75% of individuals with VWD show the Type 1 disease).
- Type 2: patients with an incorrectly functioning VWF.
- Type 3: patients with very low levels of VWF. This type of disease can be more severe and is the rarest form of VWD.

It is important for affected people to be followed in a centre specialized in the diagnosis and treatment of these disorders, as this will allow them to be periodically monitored on their state of health and therapeutic needs caused by the presence of VWD.