

## Bleeding Disorders and Siblings

Most people are familiar with the saying, “it takes a village to raise a child.” Well, it must take five villages to raise a family that deals with a bleeding disorder! Even if there is just one member in a family that is diagnosed with hemophilia or von Willebrand Disease (vWD), the entire family is affected by that diagnosis in some way or another. That is why open communication with each and every member of the family, as well as listening to how each person feels about what is going on with the bleeding disorder, should be a high priority.

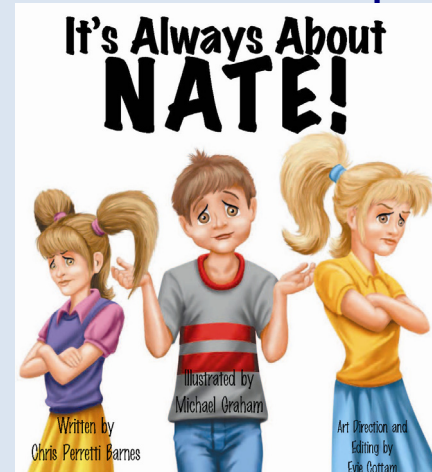
Often the person with hemophilia or vWD becomes the central focus of the family. Everything and everyone else revolves around that person and the status of his or her health on any given day. Too many times, the “non-affected” child or children in the family feel like they don’t matter as much as the person who is having bleeds or frequent infusions. They may lash out or misbehave to get the attention they feel they deserve, but don’t end up getting, because they are “not sick” or “not bleeding.”

It is very important to set aside time to talk to children about those feelings so they have a chance to be heard. As you know, each child has a unique personality and may deal with a situation in a completely different manner than that of another sibling. Spending some one-on-one time with each and every member is an important practice, to make sure everyone feels like he or she has a place and a purpose in the family dynamic.

To encourage families to communicate openly with children about bleeding disorders, BioRx is continuing its sponsorship of a series of books about Nate, a child with hemophilia.

*BioRx is proud to present a new book in its “Nate” series of publications:*

### **Our Brother Has Hemophilia**



**Written by Chris Perretti Barnes**  
**Illustrations by Michael Graham**

“*Our Brother Has Hemophilia*” is the story of a family living with hemophilia, from a sibling’s perspective. This fourth book in the “Nate” series focuses on Nate’s sisters and how hemophilia affects their lives. Having a brother with hemophilia sometimes puts a wrench in the plans of the whole family when Nate has a bleeding episode, especially when it requires more than just a home infusion.

The story takes a look into the lives of Nate’s sisters and parents, and how they feel hemophilia affects them personally. The girls retell stories of times they may have been inconvenienced because of their brother’s illness. In the end, they realize that having a little compassion can go a long way in supporting one another.

***This book will be published and available in mid-2011, and it is offered free to individuals and families affected by bleeding disorders.***

***If you would like to reserve a copy of “Our Brother Has Hemophilia,” or order any of our other “Nate” books, please contact your BioRx representative, or call us toll-free at 1-866-442-4679***