

Education Assistance for Hemophiliacs

Children and Young Adults with Hemophilia sometimes will have bleeds that will need to be tended to while they are in school. There are several tools out there that are designed to help Hemophiliacs to attend school and still have their needs met. The three major tools are listed below.

Individual Health Plan, IHP

The IHP is a standardized care plan for chronic health conditions. It lets the members of the education team know what needs to be done for the child's health care needs while at school and who is responsible for monitoring the child. It also has a plan for what to do in case of an emergency at school. The components of the IHP are often included in a 504 plan or an IEP. IHP's differ from state to state and even from school district to school district. There isn't any protection guaranteed by these plans.

The 504 Plan

This comes from the *Rehabilitation Act* and the *Americans with Disabilities Act* which specifies that no one with a disability can be excluded from participating in federally funded programs or activities, including elementary, secondary or postsecondary schooling. It is used when the medical issues of a child significantly limit one or more major life activities which include school. The goal of the plan is to level the playing field by providing accommodations and modifications that allow the student the same opportunities as their "typical" peers. Examples include: wheelchair ramps, peanut free environment, home instruction, an extra set of textbooks, a quiet place to infuse factor, etc.



Do you or your child need help with an education plan at your school? Contact your BioRx representative or call us at: 866-442-4679

Individualized Education Plan, IEP



An Individualized Education Plan falls under the *Individuals with Disability Education Act*, which is a federal law. Each state is required to provide the same basic rights, but individual districts can provide more than is required. The IEP allows for significant remediation and assistance. Only certain classifications of disabilities are eligible for an IEP. In order for a child to be eligible for an IEP as "Other Health Impaired," the health of the child must substantially affect his/her strength, vitality, or alertness. An example would be students whose medical condition requires them to miss many days of school.

You also may prepare the school for your child with Hemophilia by having a meeting with the major parties involved in your child's education and making sure they **know these 5 things:**

- 1) **The child's blood doesn't clot like most people** and he/she may be prone to internal bleeding, which would not be obvious to onlookers. Please take him/her seriously if he/she says they are not feeling well, and consult the school nurse.
- 2) **Protective gear may be necessary** for the child to enjoy physical activities, but they should be allowed to participate. Ask them to help to be as safe as possible but still let them be active.
- 3) **It's okay if his/her classmates know about their condition** as long as it is done in an appropriate manner. Let them know that you would like to help prepare a program to teach them.
- 4) Let them know that even though your child has a serious health condition they still have ordinary interests, hope, and dreams and **ask that they help keep their life as normal as possible.**
- 5) Lastly, **make sure they keep the lines of communication open between the child's house and school.** Every child with Hemophilia needs to have all the adults in their life working together.