

Design of an international, phase IV, open-label study of simoctocog alfa in women/girls with hemophilia A undergoing surgery (NuDIMENSION)

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Abstract

Background: Although hemophilia A mainly affects males, carriers (defined as females with hemophilia A, as well as symptomatic or asymptomatic hemophilia A carriers) are at risk of excessive bleeding, particularly during trauma or during surgical procedures. Clinical trials have focused on male patients with severe disease, and data for females are limited. Improved, evidence-based treatment guidelines for management of hemophilia A carriers are required.

Objectives and design: The NuDIMENSION study is a phase IV, prospective, open-label, single-arm study that will evaluate the perioperative efficacy and safety of simoctocog alfa (Nuwiq®), a recombinant factor VIII (FVIII), in women/girls with hemophilia A undergoing major surgery. The study will be conducted at approximately 15 centers worldwide. Women/girls aged ≥ 12 years, with mild or moderate hemophilia A (residual FVIII activity (FVIII:C) $\geq 1\%$ to $< 40\%$) and with no current/past FVIII inhibitors are eligible. All patients must be scheduled to undergo a major surgical procedure during which simoctocog alfa will be administered.

Methods and analysis: The primary endpoint is overall perioperative hemostatic efficacy ("success" or "failure") of simoctocog alfa. Hemostatic efficacy will be assessed at the end of surgery and at the end of the postoperative period (i.e., completion of wound healing), with overall adjudication by an Independent Data Monitoring Committee. Safety endpoints will include the incidences of thrombotic events and FVIII inhibitor development. The aim is to recruit 28 patients to achieve 26 evaluable surgeries.

Ethics: Ethical approval will be received from institutional review boards/independent ethics committees, and the study will be conducted in compliance with the Declaration of Helsinki.

Discussion: Data from NuDIMENSION will generate much-needed evidence on surgical management of women/girls with hemophilia A, which will help to enable the development of treatment guidelines specific for such patients.

Trial Registration: CT EU 2022-502061-17-00; NCT05936580

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Plain language summary

Design of an international study (NuDIMENSION) to examine the use of a factor VIII therapy during surgery in female hemophilia A patients

Hemophilia A is an inherited bleeding disorder caused by an abnormality in the *F8* gene that leads to a reduction in clotting factor VIII (FVIII). Females who inherit the abnormal gene can pass on the gene to their children and are known as 'carriers'. Some carriers have FVIII levels below 40% of normal levels and are classified as having hemophilia A. However, excessive bleeding can also occur in females with FVIII levels greater than 40% of normal. Excessive bleeding may only be evident after injury, during surgery or during childbirth, but can also cause heavy periods, for example.

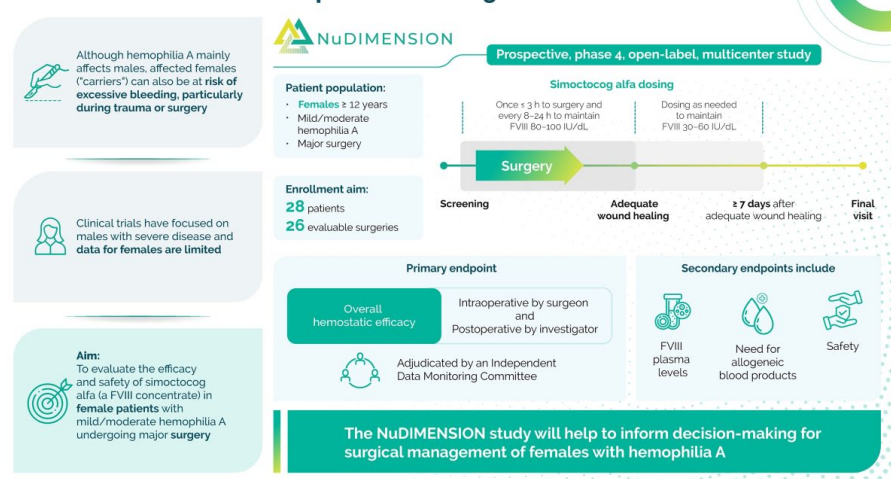
Replacement therapy with FVIII can be used to treat or prevent bleeds in people with hemophilia A. During surgery higher levels of FVIII may be needed to prevent excessive bleeding. However, information on the use of FVIII comes predominantly from trials in male patients with severe disease. Information on the treatment of carriers is limited, and treatment guidelines for surgical management of carriers are lacking.

Simoctocog alfa (Nuwiq®), a FVIII therapy, is effective at preventing and treating bleeds, including during surgery, in males with severe hemophilia A. NuDIMENSION is a multicenter, international study that will evaluate simoctocog alfa in women and girls with hemophilia A who need major surgery.

The study will include women/girls aged 12 years or older who have mild or moderate hemophilia A and who are planned to have a major surgery. The primary endpoint is overall hemostatic efficacy ("success" or "failure"), that is, how well bleeding is prevented/controlled. This will be assessed at the end of the surgery and at the end of the postoperative period. Up to 28 women and girls will take part in the study. Data from NuDIMENSION will provide important information to help decide how best to treat women/girls with hemophilia A who need surgery.

Graphical Abstract

How well is hemostasis achieved in female surgical patients with mild or moderate hemophilia A receiving a FVIII concentrate?



Keywords: carrier, factor VIII, female, hemophilia A, simoctocog alfa, surgery, women

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Introduction

The X-linked recessive inheritance pattern of hemophilia A has historically led to the misconception that females who have a pathogenic variant of the *F8* gene¹ (“carriers”) are asymptomatic.² However, it is now increasingly recognized that incomplete hemostasis in hemophilia A, which arises due to deficient clotting factor VIII (FVIII), not only occurs in males but can also occur in carriers.^{2,3}

Carriers often experience excessive bleeding associated with menstruation, childbirth, and the postpartum period,^{1–4} or following trauma or surgery.¹ Bleeding in carriers negatively impacts their quality of life.^{2,4–6} The need for additional hemostatic coverage in carriers is recognized by the World Federation of Hemophilia (WFH) who recommend that carriers with low factor levels are treated and managed the same as males with hemophilia.¹ While guidance exists for overall principles of care for hemophilia carriers,⁴ there are few guidance documents which detail their specific management.^{1,7} Standardized approaches for the management of hemophilia A carriers, informed by clinical trial data, remain lacking.

Hemophilia A severity is classified according to FVIII levels¹ and approximately 30% of carriers have levels <40 IU/dL,⁸ thus fulfilling the WFH FVIII level threshold for the disease.¹ Bleed severity in carriers is however poorly correlated with FVIII levels^{3,9} and even carriers with FVIII levels >40 IU/dL can experience excessive bleeding^{2,5,10} that may require hemostatic treatments.¹¹ A nomenclature developed by the International Society on Thrombosis and Haemostasis (ISTH) to improve diagnosis and management of hemophilia A in women/girls acknowledges this, distinguishing five clinically relevant categories of carriers: women/girls with mild, moderate or severe hemophilia A (FVIII >5 and <40 IU/dL, 1–5 IU/dL, and <1 IU/dL, respectively), and symptomatic and asymptomatic hemophilia carriers (FVIII ≥40 IU/dL with and without a bleeding phenotype, respectively).²

The majority of women/girls with hemophilia A (FVIII <40 IU/dL) are classified as having mild disease (FVIII: >5 and <40 IU/dL)^{8,12} and are generally treated on demand in response to trauma or during surgery.¹ Treatment options for women/girls with hemophilia A include antifibrinolytics (e.g., tranexamic acid), hormonal

therapies (to manage heavy menstrual bleeding), desmopressin, and FVIII concentrates.^{1,11} FVIII concentrates may be needed when higher FVIII levels are required for a prolonged period, for example, prior to major surgery and in the post-operative period (POP).¹ Data supporting efficacy of therapies for hemophilia A however predominantly come from male patients with severe disease with a sparsity of data available from patients with mild disease^{11,13} and for women/girls.^{2,11}

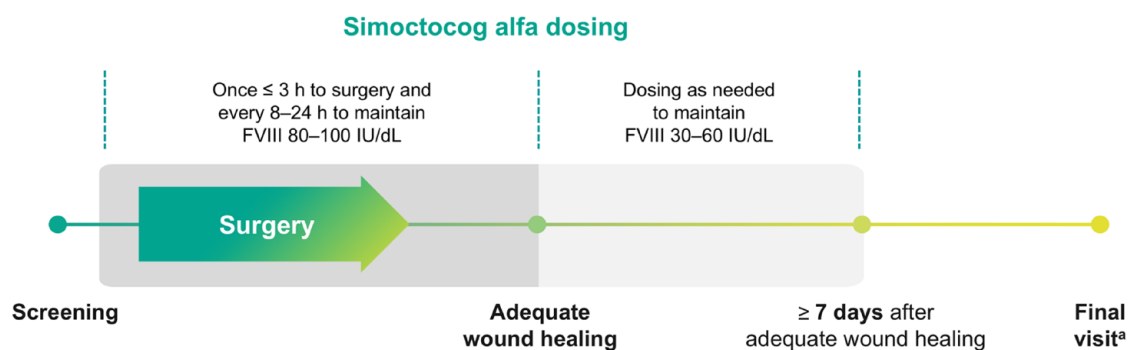
Simoctocog alfa (Nuwiq®, human-cl rhFVIII; Octapharma AG, Switzerland) is a fourth-generation recombinant FVIII concentrate produced in a human cell line¹⁴ and is indicated for the treatment and prophylaxis of bleeding in patients with hemophilia A of any age.¹⁵ Efficacy and safety of simoctocog alfa in the prevention and treatment of bleeding, as well as in surgical prophylaxis, have been demonstrated in clinical trials of male patients with severe hemophilia A.^{14–16}

The Nuwiq Dosing and outcomes In the Management of women/girls with hemophilia A Needing FVIII treatment for Surgery—an International, Open-label, Noncontrolled study (NuDIMENSION) will investigate the perioperative efficacy and safety of simoctocog alfa in women/girls with mild or moderate hemophilia A undergoing major surgery.

Methods and analysis

Design

NuDIMENSION is a phase IV, prospective, open-label, single-arm, multicenter study (registration numbers: CT EU 2022-502061-17-00; NCT05936580). The study was initiated at the first study sites in Q4 2023, and patients will be enrolled at approximately 15 sites in 7 countries (France, Finland, Germany, Italy, Serbia, Spain, and the United Kingdom). Professor Johannes Oldenburg (University Clinic Bonn, Germany) is the coordinating investigator for the study. A maximum of 28 female patients with mild or moderate hemophilia A will be enrolled in order to document 26 evaluable major surgeries. All patients will be scheduled to undergo a major surgical procedure during which simoctocog alfa will be administered and each patient can have only one surgery during the study. For each patient, the study will start from the time of the screening



^a 30 ± 3 days after the day of the surgical procedure or on the day of discharge (whichever comes later).

IU, international units.

Figure 1. NuDIMENSION study design.

visit until the final visit which is defined as 30 ± 3 days after the day of the surgical procedure or on the day of discharge (whichever comes later). There should be a minimum of 6 consecutive POP visits or POP observation days. The end of the study is defined as the last visit of the last patient participating in the study.

Simoctocog alfa will be administered intravenously once within 3 h prior to surgery and in accordance with the prescribing information.^{15,17} Pre- and postoperative FVIII plasma levels are to be maintained between 80 and 100 international units (IU)/dL. Treatment will be repeated as necessary every 8–24 h until adequate wound healing. Simoctocog alfa dosing will continue for at least another 7 days, if required, to maintain FVIII plasma levels of 30–60 IU/dL (Figure 1). Concomitant therapies not interfering with the objectives of the study, and other concomitant medications (including thromboprophylactic medications), are permitted during the study. No FVIII concentrates other than simoctocog alfa will be administered (except for emergency situations). If patients switch permanently to another FVIII product, they will be assessed as treatment failures in the efficacy analyses.

Patients may withdraw from the study at any time for any reason, without any resulting detriment and without the need to justify their decision. Patients may also be withdrawn at the investigator's discretion for safety, compliance, or other reasons.

An Independent Data Monitoring Committee (IDMC) has been established for the study by the

sponsor and will provide independent advice to the sponsor. The IDMC is composed of three recognized experts in the field of hematology who are not actively recruiting patients (Roger J. Lewis (Harbor-UCLA Medical Center, USA)—Chair, Craig M. Kessler (Lombardi Cancer Center, USA), Robert Klamroth (Vivantes Klinikum im Friedrichshain, Germany)), and a biostatistician (Volker Schoder (Metronomia Clinical Research GmbH, Germany)). The IDMC will adjudicate the overall hemostatic efficacy assessment of the perioperative prophylaxis with simoctocog alfa and will review and monitor adverse event(s) (AEs) during the study. They will also provide guidance on: the protection of participants during the study; the proper conduct and interpretation of the efficacy and safety data during the study and at the end of the study; and the ongoing scientific validity, integrity, and clinical and scientific relevance of the study. The IDMC will review relevant data periodically during the study and will give advice on the continuation, modification, or termination of the study. The IDMC will report to the sponsor, and its members are free from conflicts of interest with respect to the clinical study, the principal and co-investigators, and the sponsor.

Objectives and endpoints

The objectives of the NuDIMENSION study are summarized in Box 1.

The primary endpoint is the overall perioperative hemostatic efficacy (“success” or “failure”) of simoctocog alfa in women/girls with mild or moderate hemophilia A undergoing major surgery.

Box 1. NuDIMENSION study objectives.

Primary objective

- Overall perioperative hemostatic efficacy of simoctocog alfa in women/girls with mild or moderate hemophilia A undergoing major surgery

Secondary objectives

- Intra- and postoperative surgical hemostatic efficacy of simoctocog alfa
- Perioperative use of allogeneic blood products (red blood cells, platelets, and other blood products)
- Perioperative FVIII plasma levels
- Perioperative efficacy of simoctocog alfa assessed by the criteria recommended by the WFH¹
- Perioperative safety of simoctocog alfa

FVIII, factor VIII; WFH, World Federation of Hemophilia.

Hemostatic efficacy will be assessed at the end of surgery (last suture) by the surgeon and at the end of the POP by the investigator (hematologist), both using a four-point ordinal hemostatic efficacy scale (Table 1). The end of the POP will be defined as completion of wound healing (e.g. removal of sutures, cessation of drainage etc.) as defined by the investigator. Overall, hemostatic efficacy will be adjudicated by the IDMC using a predefined algorithm that considers the surgeon's assessment of intraoperative hemostatic efficacy and the investigator's assessment of postoperative hemostatic efficacy to classify the overall hemostatic efficacy as success or failure (Table 2).

Secondary endpoints of this study are: intra- and postoperative hemostatic efficacy of simoctocog alfa, both using a four-point ordinal hemostatic efficacy scale; number of perioperative allogeneic blood products (red blood cells, platelets and other blood products) transfused; perioperative FVIII plasma levels immediately before (≤ 30 min) and after (15–30 min) simoctocog alfa injections; perioperative hemostatic efficacy of simoctocog alfa assessed using the four-point scale recommended by the WFH¹; incidence of AEs; incidence of thrombotic events; and incidence of FVIII inhibitor formation.

Patient eligibility and recruitment

Women/girls ≥ 12 years of age with mild or moderate hemophilia A (residual FVIII activity (FVIII:C) $\geq 1\%$ to $<40\%$) scheduled to undergo

major elective surgery, and with no current or past FVIII inhibitors will be eligible for the study. Patients must meet all inclusion criteria and none of the exclusion criteria. For full patient eligibility criteria see Table 3.

Data collection and analysis

Data will be recorded for each patient via an electronic case report form. Demographic and baseline characteristics (gender, age, ethnic origin, blood group, height, weight, body mass index) will be recorded at the screening visit, along with the patient's medical and prior treatment history which will be obtained by interviewing the patient and/or obtaining medical records. Blood samples will be drawn for *F8* genotype analysis preferably at the screening visit, or alternatively at any time during the study.

Blood sampling will be performed for the following assessments at various times during the study at central and/or local laboratories: FVIII inhibitors, FVIII plasma levels (chromogenic and one-stage assays), and routine chemistry and hematology. A negative result for inhibitors (<0.6 BU/mL) must be confirmed at the screening visit. *F8* genotype will be determined once during the study at a central laboratory.

Safety

Perioperative safety of simoctocog alfa will be assessed by monitoring for AEs and

Table 1. Four-point ordinal hemostatic efficacy scale.

At the end of surgery ^{a,b}	
Excellent	Intraoperative blood loss was lower than or equal to the average expected blood loss for the type of procedure performed in a patient with normal hemostasis and of the same gender, age, and stature.
Good	Intraoperative blood loss was higher than the average expected blood loss but lower or equal to the maximal expected blood loss for the type of procedure in a patient with normal hemostasis.
Moderate	Intraoperative blood loss was higher than the maximum expected blood loss for the type of procedure performed in a patient with normal hemostasis, but hemostasis was controlled.
None	Hemostasis was uncontrolled, necessitating a change in the clotting factor replacement regimen.
At the end of postoperative period ^c	
Excellent	No postoperative bleeding or oozing that was not due to complications of surgery. All postoperative bleeding (due to complications of surgery) was controlled with simoctocog alfa as anticipated for the type of procedure.
Good	No postoperative bleeding or oozing that was not due to complications of surgery. Control of postoperative bleeding due to complications of surgery required increased dosing with simoctocog alfa or additional injections not originally anticipated for the type of procedure.
Moderate	Some postoperative bleeding and oozing that was not due to complications of surgery. Control of postoperative bleeding required increased dosing with simoctocog alfa or additional injections not originally anticipated for the type of procedure.
None	Extensive uncontrolled postoperative bleeding and oozing. Control of postoperative bleeding required use of an alternate FVIII product.
^a Assessed by the surgeon at the end of surgery (defined as last suture). ^b For all ratings (excellent, good, moderate and none), unexpected blood loss due to surgical complications will not be taken into consideration when assessing intraoperative efficacy. Surgical complications include direct injury of a vessel (artery or vein), vessel injury not adequately responding to routine surgical procedures achieving hemostasis, and accidental injury of parenchymatous tissue (e.g., liver, lung). ^c Assessed by the investigator for the period from the end of the procedure to the end of the postoperative period. The end of the postoperative period will be defined as completion of wound healing (e.g. removal of sutures, cessation of drainage, etc.) as defined by the investigator. FVIII, factor VIII.	

Table 2. Overall assessment (success or failure) derived from assessment of intra- and postoperative hemostatic efficacy.

Assessment of intraoperative hemostatic efficacy	Assessment of postoperative hemostatic efficacy			
	Excellent	Good	Moderate	None
Excellent	Success	Success	Success	Primary adjudication ^a
Good	Success	Success	Primary adjudication ^a	Failure
Moderate	Success	Primary adjudication ^a	Failure	Failure
None	Primary adjudication ^a	Failure	Failure	Failure
^a Classification of success or failure will be determined by the IDMC. For other assessment determinations, the IDMC will carry out additional adjudication of the primary endpoint outcomes for assessing the valid use of the classification scales and assessment algorithm. IDMC, Independent Data Monitoring Committee.				

treatment-related AEs. These include thrombotic events, FVIII inhibitor formation, and other AEs or serious adverse events temporally associated with the injection of simoctocog alfa. All

suspected treatment-related AEs and other safety information (any drug overdose, interaction, medication error or lack of efficacy) will be documented and reported. Any unexpected

Table 3. Patient eligibility criteria.

Inclusion criteria
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Women/girls with mild or moderate hemophilia A (FVIII:C $\geq 1\%$ to $<40\%$) according to medical history • At least 12 years of age • Scheduled to undergo major elective surgery^a requiring FVIII treatment • Freely written informed consent of the patient, or parent/legal representative where applicable, obtained in accordance with local regulations
Exclusion criteria
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coagulation disorder other than hemophilia A • Present or past FVIII inhibitor (≥ 0.6 BU/mL) • Severe liver or kidney disease (ALT and/or AST levels >5 times the upper limit of normal; or creatinine >120 $\mu\text{mol/L}$) • Known hypersensitivity to Nuwiq®'s active substance or its excipients (sucrose, sodium chloride, calcium chloride dihydrate, arginine hydrochloride, sodium citrate dihydrate, poloxamer 188) • Pregnancy • Already had surgery in this study • Current participation in another interventional clinical trial • Treatment with any investigational medicinal product within 30 days prior to screening visit
<p>^aSurgeries are defined as major if any of the following criteria are met: requiring general or spinal anesthesia; requiring opening into the great body cavities; orthopedic interventions involving joints (ankle, knee, hip, wrist, elbow, shoulder); surgeries/conditions in which the patient's life is at stake.</p> <p>ALT, alanine aminotransferase; AST, aspartate aminotransferase; BU, Bethesda units; FVIII, factor VIII; FVIII:C, factor VIII activity.</p>

treatment-related AEs will be reported to the Independent Ethics Committees (IECs)/Institutional Review Boards (IRBs). Vital signs will be monitored, and routine chemistry and hematology performed at various times during the study. As pregnancy is an exclusion criterion for the study (Table 3), pregnancy tests will be conducted in patients of child-bearing potential at the screening visit and their pregnancy status checked again at the preoperative stage.

Statistical methods

The primary aim of the study is to prove that overall perioperative hemostatic efficacy is achieved with simoctocog alfa (defined as an overall efficacy rating of "success" by the IDMC) with a probability of $>60\%$ in major surgeries. Assuming a true success rate of 85% and employing a one-sided binomial test at a one-sided significance level of 2.5% , a total sample size of 26 surgeries was calculated to be needed to achieve a statistical power of $>80\%$.

For primary statistical analysis, an exact one-sided binomial test will be employed, and a two-sided exact 95% confidence interval will be given. A similar analysis will be performed for

assessments of intraoperative hemostatic efficacy, postoperative hemostatic efficacy, and overall hemostatic efficacy (surgeon and investigator combined (IDMC adjudicated)). In addition, secondary efficacy and safety endpoints will be analyzed descriptively.

Ethics

NuDIMENSION will be conducted in accordance with ethical principles of international guidelines including the Declaration of Helsinki and the International Council for Harmonisation (ICH) Guideline for Good Clinical Practice (GCP) and applicable regulatory requirements. The study protocol (and amended protocols, if necessary), and a sample of patient information and informed consent form, and other relevant documents will be submitted to the IECs/IRBs and regulatory authorities. Any amended protocols will require IRB/IEC approval before implementation. The investigator will obtain freely given written consent for each patient or the patient's parent(s)/legal representative(s).

The results are planned to be published in a peer-reviewed journal and presented at scientific meetings. The sponsor and investigators

will ensure patient confidentiality is preserved through appropriate technical and organizational measures.

Discussion

Clinical trials in hemophilia A have to date mostly focused on male patients with severe disease (FVIII <1 IU/dL¹), with female patients usually ineligible for inclusion.¹¹ However, despite females being more often classified as having milder disease compared to males,^{8,12,18} the negative impact of the disease on quality-of-life in females is evident across the range of disease severities.^{6,11} Evidence-based specific treatment guidelines for hemophilia A carriers are therefore much needed, including recommendations for perioperative hemostasis in females with mild or moderate disease.

Carriers undergoing surgical procedures can experience increased bleeding^{1,10} and for mild hemophilia patients, occurrence of trauma or surgery may be the first time that this abnormal/excessive bleeding manifests.¹ The WFH guidelines for the management of hemophilia state that hemophilia A patients undergoing surgery require additional hemostatic coverage.¹ However, extrapolating current standard of care for surgery from male hemophilia A patients to females is complicated by the lack of correlation between FVIII levels and bleeding severity in carriers.^{3,9}

Although desmopressin is indicated as a hemostatic treatment during surgery in patients with mild hemophilia A who show a good response to the drug presurgery, due to tachyphylaxis it is recognized to not be suitable for major surgery where adequate hemostasis is required for a longer period.¹ In these situations, FVIII concentrates are the preferred hemostatic treatment with a treatment duration of at least 7–10 days.¹ FVIII replacement therapy is a well-established approach for the management of patients with severe hemophilia A, for prevention and treatment of bleeding episodes as well as surgical prophylaxis.¹ However, clinical data on its efficacy and safety in patients with mild/moderate disease and in women/girls with hemophilia A, including during surgery, are limited. In a retrospective chart review of 47 women/girls with hemophilia, of the 15 hemophilia A carriers who underwent major surgery ($n=10$), minor surgery ($n=3$), or a major dental procedure ($n=2$), the majority of patients received FVIII concentrates

($n=12$ (80%)).¹⁹ Other hemostatic treatments were desmopressin ($n=3$ (20%)) and antifibrinolytic ($n=1$ (6.7%)). Bleeding control was deemed sufficient (where bleeding level was as normally expected for the procedure) in 13 (86.7%) cases.¹⁹

The efficacy and safety of simoctocog alfa in the prevention and treatment of bleeding, and as surgical prophylaxis, have been extensively demonstrated in clinical trials in male patients with severe hemophilia A.^{14–16} In a pooled analysis of seven clinical trials with simoctocog alfa in previously treated male patients, hemostatic efficacy was rated as excellent or good by the surgeon and the hematologist for 24 of 25 major surgeries and as moderate for one surgery.¹⁶ There were no serious treatment-related AEs, and none of the patients developed FVIII inhibitors.¹⁶ The NuDIMENSION study will provide female-specific data by examining the hemostatic efficacy and safety of perioperative FVIII replacement with simoctocog alfa in women/girls diagnosed with mild or moderate hemophilia A undergoing major elective surgery. Women/girls with severe hemophilia A (FVIII:C <1%) will not be eligible for the study. By including patients with mild and moderate hemophilia A, the study aims to create a more homogenous population with respect to prior treatment history and reduce the risk of confounding factors on the interpretation of the results. This will allow the focus to be on females with nonsevere disease who are not sufficiently covered in the treatment guidelines at present.

Conclusion

Despite increasing awareness of the issues faced by carriers of hemophilia A, prospective clinical trial data are lacking. Data from the NuDIMENSION study will contribute to the evidence needed to inform specific treatment guidelines for surgical management of women/girls with mild or moderate hemophilia A.

Declarations

Ethics approval and consent to participate

NuDIMENSION will be conducted in accordance with ethical principles of international guidelines including the Declaration of Helsinki and the International Council for Harmonisation (ICH) Guideline for Good Clinical Practice (GCP) and applicable regulatory requirements. The study protocol (and amended protocols, if necessary),

and a sample of patient information and informed consent form, and other relevant documents will be submitted to the IECs/IRBs and regulatory authorities. Any amended protocols will require IRB/IEC approval before implementation. The study was reviewed and approved in accordance with EU-CT regulations (CT EU 2022-502061-17-00). Ethical approval was received from all participating countries. For EU countries, European Medicines Agency (EMA) approval was received on the dates as follows: Finland 13-10-23, France 04-09-23, Germany 21-08-23, Italy 21-08-23, Spain 21-08-23. For non-EU countries (Serbia and the United Kingdom), ethical approval was received for Serbia from the Ethics Committee of Serbia (approval no. 515-20-05741-23-003 on 16-08-23) and for the United Kingdom from South Central—Hampshire A Research Ethics Committee (REC), NHS Health Research Authority (REC reference no. 24/SC/0017 on 02-02-24). The investigator will obtain freely given written consent for each patient or the patient's parent(s)/legal representative(s) after an appropriate explanation of the aims, methods, anticipated benefits, potential hazards, and any other aspect of the study which is relevant to the patient's decision to participate. Patients will be informed that they are free to refuse to enter the study or to withdraw from the study at any time, without any consequences for their future care and without the need to justify.

Consent for publication

Not applicable.

Author contributions

Natascha Marquardt: Conceptualization; Writing – original draft; Writing – review & editing.

Florian Langer: Conceptualization; Writing – review & editing.

Katharina Holstein: Conceptualization; Writing – review & editing.

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Ramiro Núñez Vázquez: Conceptualization; Writing – review & editing.

Predrag Miljić: Conceptualization; Writing – review & editing.

Nicolas Drillaud: Conceptualization; Writing – review & editing.

Laurent Ardillon: Conceptualization; Writing – review & editing.

Anna-Elina Lehtinen: Conceptualization; Writing – review & editing.

Rita Carlotta Santoro: Conceptualization; Writing – review & editing.

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Gillian Gidley: Conceptualization; Writing – review & editing.

Martina Jansen: Conceptualization; Writing – review & editing.

Sigurd Knaub: Conceptualization; Writing – review & editing.

Johannes Oldenburg: Conceptualization; Writing – original draft; Writing – review & editing.

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Competing interests

N.M. has received research funding from Pfizer, consultancy fees from Bayer, CSL Behring, Novo Nordisk, Octapharma, Pfizer, Sobi, honoraria from Baxalta, Bayer, Chugai, CSL Behring, Novo Nordisk, Octapharma, Pfizer, Roche, Sobi and travels fees from Novo Nordisk, Octapharma, Sobi, and Takeda. F.L. has received personal fees for lectures or consultancy from Bayer, BioMarin, Chugai, CSL Behring, Novo Nordisk, Octapharma, Pfizer, Roche, Sobi, and Takeda. K.H. reports grants for research or clinical studies (to institution) from Bayer, CSL Behring, Novo Nordisk, Pfizer, Roche, Sobi, and honoraria for lectures


or consultancy (to person) from Bayer, Biomarin, Biotest, Chugai, CSL Behring, LFB, Novo Nordisk, Pfizer, Roche, Sobi, and Takeda. M.T.Á.-R. has served on advisory boards and speakers bureau for Amgen, Bayer, BioMarin, Bioverativ, CSL Behring, Grifols, LFB, Novartis, Novo Nordisk, Octapharma, Pfizer, Roche, and Takeda. R.N.V. has received personal honoraria for consulting services from Alexion, CSL Behring, Novo Nordisk, Octapharma, Pfizer, Roche, Sobi, and Takeda. P.M. declared no potential conflicts of interest with respect to the research, authorship, and/or publication of this article. N.D. has received honoraria for participation in advisory boards for Octapharma, Roche-Chugai and SOBI, and has received hospitality by Bayer HealthCare and Novo Nordisk. L.A. has received honoraria for participation in advisory board for Sobi, and has received hospitality by Bayer, CSL Behring, Octapharma, Sobi, and Takeda, and education by LFB. A.-E.L. has acted as a paid consultant, speaker and/or advisor for Bayer, Biomarin, CSL Behring, Novo Nordisk, Octapharma, Roche, Sobi, and Takeda. R.C.S. has received honoraria for participation in advisory boards and speakers bureaus from Bayer, Biomarin, CSL Behring, Novo Nordisk, Pfizer, Roche, Sobi, and Takeda. M.N. has acted as a consultant for Bayer, CSL Behring, Novo Nordisk, and Sobi, and has received honoraria for participating in advisory boards for Amgen, Bayer, CSL Behring, Kedrion, Novartis, Novo Nordisk, Sanofi Genzyme, Sobi, and Takeda. S.S. declared no potential conflicts of interest with respect to the research, authorship, and/or publication of this article. G.G. has received research funding from Bayer and LFB, consultancy fees from Hemab and Novo Nordisk, and honoraria from Bayer and Novo Nordisk. J.O. has received research funding from Bayer, Biotest, CSL Behring, Octapharma, Pfizer, Swedish Orphan Biovitrum, and Takeda; consultancy, speakers bureau, honoraria, scientific advisory board and travel expenses from Bayer, Biogen Idec, BioMarin, Biotest, Chugai, CSL Behring, Freeline, Grifols, LFB, Novo Nordisk, Octapharma, Pfizer, Roche, Sanofi, Spark Therapeutics, Swedish Orphan Biovitrum, and Takeda. M.J. and S.K. are employees of Octapharma.

Availability of data and materials

Data sharing not applicable to this article as no datasets were generated or analyzed.

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