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To whom it may concern:

We are sending this letter to inform you of a research study we are conducting here at the (clinic name). This study is designed for all patients with a diagnosed hereditary bleeding disorder. You, or your child, have been identified as one of these patients.

Enclosed you will find a copy of the patient information sheet for this research study. We hope you will take the time to read this information sheet as it outlines and describes the study for you in detail. Listed below are some brief objectives for this study.

- The objective of this study is to create and develop a secure bank of blood samples to be available to test for known and newly discovered viruses. This means that your blood sample will be available for future reference to screen for new viruses as they are discovered. This will enable you and your physician, to have the results in a timely manner. Health Canada highly support this study, to assist this patient group with their healthcare.
- Our second objective will attempt to study the genetic mutation causing your or your child's bleeding disorders, in order to develop and study treatment in the future.
- We would like to obtain your consent to collect your blood sample, (1.5-3 tsp for adults and .5 tsp for children under the age of 5.) and to share your clinical information obtained through the current data bank; CHARMS, with this study. Your identity will never be revealed for any publications. We will ensure that your name will never be used to identify you.

This is a very brief description of the study we are proposing to you. Please read the attached patient information sheet to have the details clearly outlined for you and your family.

Please do not sign any part of the patient information sheet or the consent form at this time. Please wait until you see your doctor or nurse.

On the morning of your annual visit, the research assistant will be in the clinic to answer any questions and discuss the study.

Sincerely,

Dr. B. Ritchie
Assistant Professor, Division of Hematology
University Of Alberta Hospital