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PK Study Fact Sheet

What is a PK Study?

O PK study stands for pharmacokinetics study; this may also sometimes be called a recovery study. Pharmacokinetics is the study of drug absorption, distribution, metabolism and excretion; in other words, pharmacokinetics is how quickly the factor medication is processed and eliminated from your body. A PK study is done to see how a factor medication that you have never used before will work for you specifically. Laboratory tests will be done to see how high your factor level gets (peak) as well as in other time intervals following this to see how quickly your body is eliminating the factor product.

What do I need to do before I have my PK Study?

Your Hematologist will typically advise you to "wash out" (not receive any factor) for a full 72-96 hours before you start this study, but you should follow their specific directions about this time frame for your "wash out". This is done so that your factor level is down to your baseline in order for your doctor to get a true picture of how your body processes the new medication that you are getting without having the effect of your current factor regimen still in your system.

What happens for these lab draws?

O You will have blood drawn right before you receive the infusion of this new medication. Usually, for a short-acting factor medication, you will have your factor level drawn 30 minutes after (peak), 4 hours, 8 hours, 24 hours and 48 hours after your factor was infused. Usually, for a long-acting factor medication, you will have your factor level drawn 30 minutes after (peak), 24 hours, 72 hours, and 96 hours after your factor was infused. You should not receive any additional factor medication throughout this process of having your factor levels drawn as this will give false results for your PK study.

What do I do after my blood is drawn for the last lab test?

 After your blood is drawn for the last blood test, you should resume your normal factor prophylactic ("prophy") schedule; it will take some time for your Hematologist to get these lab results and decide on the plan moving forward for this new factor medication and how it works for you.

When will I get my results?

O It may take up to two weeks for your doctor to get these results, review them, and decide on the best treatment plan moving forward for how this new factor medication works specifically for you. If you have questions in the meantime, don't hesitate to call BCDI.