

## **Press release – embargoed until 00.00hrs 17<sup>th</sup> April 2025**

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### **World Haemophilia Day – "Access for All: Women and Girls Bleed Too"**

On the 17<sup>th</sup> April every year across the world, Haemophilia Day aims to raise awareness about haemophilia<sup>1</sup> and other bleeding disorders<sup>2</sup>.

While attention to haemophilia, a genetic disorder that impairs the blood's ability to clot properly, leading to excessive bleeding even from minor injuries.

This year the focus is on women and girls with bleeding disorders in recognition that there needs to be better recognition and access to care. Women and girls with bleeding disorders are often under diagnosed.

Across the UK around 17,000 women and girls have a diagnosed bleeding disorder, although it is estimated that there is also at least 35,000 more who are undiagnosed.

Undiagnosed or poorly managed bleeding disorders can significantly impact the quality of life for women and girls, affecting education, career, and personal relationships.

### **The ABPN believes that**

- Every child and young person has a right to have their specific needs recognised and addressed<sup>3,4</sup>
- Infants, children and young people should receive care from nurses that have the child specific knowledge, skills and competencies to meet their unique needs in age-appropriate facilities, at home or closer to home in community and general practice settings<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Haemophilia is a genetic disorder that impairs the blood's ability to clot properly, leading to excessive bleeding even from minor injuries. Women with haemophilia may experience more frequent bleeding events, including prolonged bleeding after childbirth or surgery.

<sup>2</sup> The day also focuses on other bleeding disorders, such as von Willebrand disease.

<sup>3</sup> See ABPN Position statement on Children and Young People's rights [abpn\\_position\\_statement\\_children\\_and\\_young\\_peoples\\_rights.pdf](#) and ABPN Background briefing on Children and Young People's Rights [abpn\\_background\\_briefing\\_children\\_and\\_young\\_people.pdf](#)

<sup>4</sup> UN Declaration of Human Rights 1948 see <https://www.un.org/en/about-us/universal-declaration-of-human-rights/>

<sup>5</sup> See ABPN Position statement on Workforce planning and nurse staffing [abpn\\_position\\_statement\\_workforce\\_planning\\_and\\_nurse\\_staffing-final\\_nov\\_2024.docx](#) and ABPN Background briefing on workforce planning and nurse staffing [abpn\\_workforce\\_planning\\_and\\_nurse\\_staffing\\_background\\_briefing\\_paper-final\\_nov\\_2024.docx](#)

- Child field specific pre-registration undergraduate education programmes, as well as specific post registration education is crucial to equip nurses to meet the needs of children and young people across all settings, including at home or closer to home in community and general practice settings<sup>6,7</sup>

“Inequity and access issues affect girls and women in many areas of healthcare resulting in them receiving poorer healthcare and this resulting in poorer life chances and outcomes. It is encouraging to see the focus of World Haemophilia Day in 2025 being on girls and women”.

Professor Bernie Carter, President

### Notes for editors

The term child refers to infants, children, young people and young adults up to 25 years of age

The ABPN recognises that primary and community services, as well as child public health and mental health services, including school nurses and health visitors also have a key role in supporting children, young people and families.

The ABPN is a network of children’s nurses with a wide membership of experts in clinical practice, education, leadership and research. It is the oldest children’s nursing association in the world, established in 1938.

[www.abpn-uk.com](http://www.abpn-uk.com)

Blue Sky: @abpn-childnurse.bsky.social

Facebook: Association of British Paediatric Nurses

Tik Tok: @ABPN\_ChildNurse

YouTube: @ABPN\_ChildNurse

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<sup>6</sup> See ABPN Position Statement on Children’s Nurse Education  
[abpn\\_position\\_statement\\_nurse\\_education\\_final\\_24\\_november\\_2024.pdf](#)

<sup>7</sup> See ABPN Background Paper on Children’s Nurse Education  
[abpn\\_cn\\_education\\_background\\_paper\\_final\\_22nd\\_november\\_2024.pdf-](#)