

CURRENT CONCEPTS REVIEW

Hemophilic Pseudotumors: Diagnosis and Management

E. Carlos Rodriguez-Merchan, MD, PhD¹*Research performed at the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, La Paz University Hospital-IdiPaz, Madrid, Spain*

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Abstract

Prevention is essential for avoiding the complications of muscle hematomas (pseudotumors, compartment syndromes and peripheral nerve lesions) in hemophilic patients. This is achieved through early diagnosis of muscle hematomas and proper long-term hematological treatment until they have resolved (confirmed by image studies). Ultrasound-guided percutaneous drainage could be beneficial in terms of achieving better and faster symptom relief. When suspecting a hemophilic pseudotumor, biopsy will help us confirm the diagnosis and rule out true tumors (chondrosarcoma, liposarcoma, synovial sarcoma) that sometimes mimic hemophilic pseudotumor. Surgical removal of hemophilic pseudotumor is the best solution. As alternatives, there are curettage and filling with cancellous bone and radiotherapy (when surgery is contraindicated). Preoperative arterial embolization (ideally 2 weeks before surgery) helps control intraoperative bleeding during surgery for giant pelvic pseudotumors.

Level of evidence: III**Keywords:** Hemophilia, Muscle hematomas, Prevention, Pseudotumors, Treatment

Introduction

The clinical severity of hemophilia is commonly related to the plasma level of factor VIII or factor IX. Patients are classified as having mild, moderate or severe hemophilia depending on the level of the deficient factor, which can be >5% of normal in mild cases and <1% of normal in severe hemophilia. This is reflected in the frequency and causes of bleeding. Whereas a patient with mild hemophilia will bleed rarely, usually only after significant trauma or surgery, those with severe hemophilia may have several episodes per month, and typically bleed spontaneously as a result of minimal trauma or activities of daily living (1, 2).

The main problem for patients with hemophilia is that they suffer from hemorrhages in the musculoskeletal system, both joints (hemarthrosis) and muscles. These represent approximately 80% of all hemorrhages and usually begin in childhood. At the joint level, they usually occur mainly in the knees, ankles and elbows; at the muscular level, they can appear in any muscle

group of the body (although muscle hematomas are less frequent than hemarthroses) (1, 2).

The most accepted treatment for muscle hematomas in patients with congenital coagulopathies is intravenous infusion of the deficient factor until achieving total spontaneous resorption of the hematoma (confirmed by imaging studies – ultrasonography-US, computed tomography-CT or magnetic resonance imaging-MRI). Ultrasound-guided percutaneous drainage could be beneficial in terms of achieving better and faster symptom relief. Ultrasound guided hematoma evacuation is a safe procedure. However, the proportion of unsuccessful drainages and hematoma recurrence is substantial (13%). Such a rate of unsuccessful evacuation is due to excessive density and/or viscosity of the content. Ideally, hematoma drainage must be performed before 3 to 5 days since the beginning of the muscular bleed (3). However, when treatment is insufficient, some muscle hematomas can cause serious complications such as acute compartment

Corresponding Author: E. Carlos Rodriguez-Merchan, Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, La Paz University Hospital-IdiPaz, Paseo de la Castellana, Madrid, Spain
Email: ecrmerchan@hotmail.com



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syndrome (ACS), pseudotumor and peripheral nerve compression (1-9).

Patients with congenital coagulopathies may suffer from ACS due to a hematoma in some inextensible compartment of their anatomy. It is a rare problem but can be very serious. Typically, the ACS of the volar aspect of the forearm (Volkmann's syndrome) causes a retraction of the volar musculature that causes a great deformity and permanent disability of the hand. It is essential to carry out the urgent opening of the affected compartment (fasciotomy) as soon as its existence is suspected (5, 7).

ACS is characterised by an increase in intramuscular pressure in an anatomical compartment. This causes a decrease in capillary perfusion that threatens tissue survival (5, 7). If the pressure increase lasts a few hours, there will be necrosis of the muscle and nerve tissue which will cause a contracture of the affected limb and a permanent loss of function. Therefore, early diagnosis and treatment is essential.

The diagnosis should be based on the clinical examination (intense pain when the affected muscles are stretched) and objective measurement of the limb perfusion pressure (diastolic blood pressure minus intramuscular pressure) in the affected compartment. To achieve a reliable diagnosis, the patient should be evaluated for 1-2 hours. In children and in patients with loss of consciousness, a diagnosis cannot be made based on the level of pain, so it will be essential to measure the pressure of the compartment. If the mean perfusion pressure of the limb measured during a 12-hour period (monitored every 1-2 hours) is less than 30 mmHg, fasciotomy should be performed.

Unfortunately, fasciotomy is not exempt from potential complications. These include the need for further surgery because of a delay in the healing of the surgical wound, the need for a skin graft, pain, esthetic problems, nerve injury, permanent muscle weakness and chronic venous insufficiency.

In hemophilia, the first step in the treatment of an ACS should be adequate substitution of the deficient coagulation factor (intravenous infusion). In some patients with congenital coagulopathies, it is possible to halt disease progression by means of appropriate hematological treatment, leaving surgery (fasciotomy) reserved for those cases in which, despite said hematological treatment, the ACS does not remit (5, 7).

Peripheral nerve lesions are infrequent in patients with congenital coagulopathies. The most common injury is to the femoral nerve (due to an iliopsoas muscle hematoma) (6). A case of entrapment of the peroneal nerve secondary to a muscle hematoma, and a combined nerve injury (severe in the median nerve, mild in the ulnar nerve) in a young hemophilic patient secondary to a hematoma on the forearm has also been described (8, 9). Hematological treatment is sometimes enough. Otherwise, surgical neurolysis of the affected nerve must be performed. Surgery would only be indicated if the problem is not resolved within 24 hours.

In this article, the literature on the management of pseudotumors in patients with hemophilia will be

reviewed.

Hemophilic pseudotumors: Definition and epidemiology

A pseudotumor is a recurrent chronic muscle hematoma, which in patients with hemophilia ends up developing the form of a tumor [Figure 1]. It is essential to remember that when there is a suspicion of a pseudotumor in a patient with congenital coagulopathy, we must always rule out the existence of a true tumor, which can be achieved through exhaustive study of the case (diagnostic imaging) and ultimately by performing a biopsy (always according to tumour criteria and under adequate hemostatic control). Ideally, this type of injury should be treated in specialized centres with expertise in bleeding disorder management in collaboration with a "Bone Tumor Unit".

When pseudotumors are large, they can compress neighboring anatomical structures. The most frequent is the pelvic pseudotumor, secondary to a hematoma of the iliopsoas muscle [Figures 2; 3] (4).

Another form of pseudotumor is a bone cyst, which is considered secondary to bleeding within a bone cavity. These lesions can be controlled by curettage and filling with bone graft or other similar material, provided that the bone cortices are intact [Figure 4].

In one study, 49 cystic lesions were analyzed in 37 hemophilic patients (10). Their average age was 23 years and the mean follow-up was 10 years. The locations of the lesions were as follows: 24 (49%) in the tibia, seven (14.4%) in the ulna, six (12.2%) in the talus (12.2%), five (10.2%) in the humerus, five in the femur (10.2%) and two (4%) in distal radius. After aspirating the

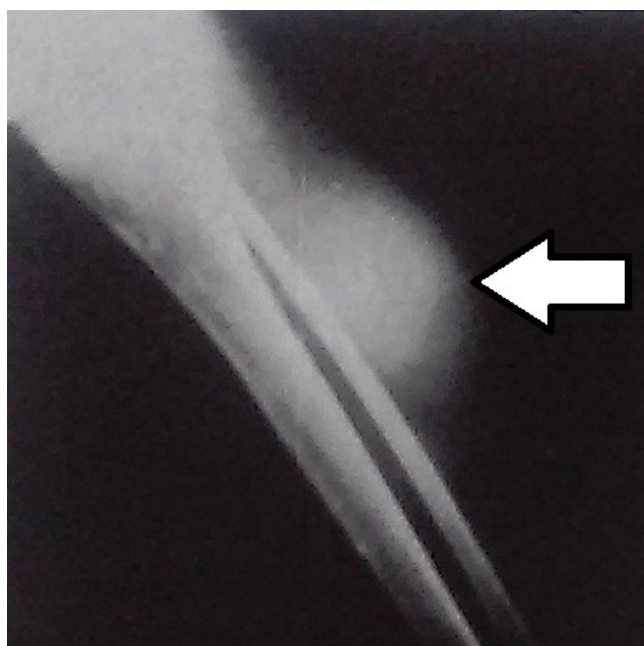


Figure 1. Radiograph of a pseudotumor of the tibia (arrow) secondary to a recurrent muscle hematoma in the area.

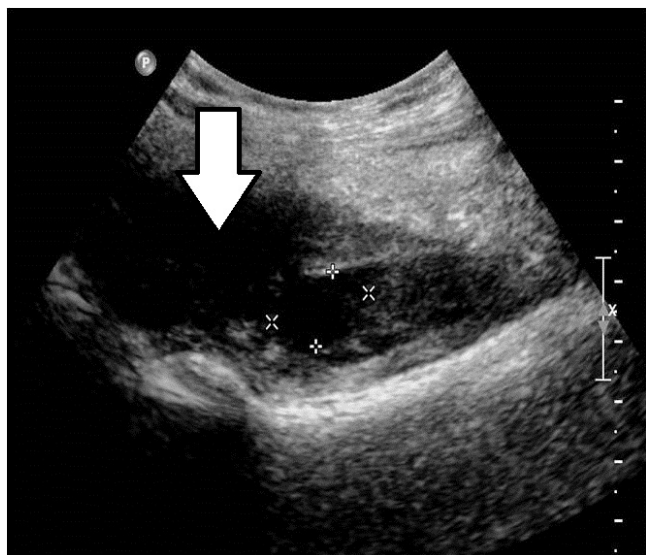


Figure 2. Ultrasound image of an iliopsoas muscle hematoma (arrow) in a patient with hemophilia.

cystic content, the cavity was filled with impacted coral hydroxyapatite. In 48 of the 49 cases bone structure was restored, with only one patient needing a second intervention to resolve the problem.

Treatment of hemophilic pseudotumors

The best treatment for pseudotumor in patients with congenital coagulopathies is prevention, that is, proper long-term hematological treatment of muscle hematomas, until total resolution (reabsorption). Imaging tests (US, CT scan, MRI) are fundamental for monitoring the evolution of muscle hematomas in patients with congenital coagulopathies. In most cases the best solution is radical surgical excision. Preoperative arterial embolization (ideally 2 weeks before surgery) may be helpful in giant pelvic pseudotumors (11-13).

It has been observed that with primary hematological prophylaxis, the rate of pseudotumor has diminished considerably, being an indirect measure of the quality of a country's hematological prophylaxis. It is essential to avoid muscle hematomas and diagnose them early. An untreated hematoma will tend to destroy adjacent soft tissues, erode the surrounding bone, and produce neurological damage (such as femoral nerve injury in hematomas of the iliopsoas muscle). It must be remembered that a pain in the right iliac fossa in a patient with congenital coagulopathy may be due to an iliopsoas hematoma and not to an acute appendicitis.

The combination of hematological treatment and radiotherapy can be used in pseudotumors located in the distal parts of the extremities, especially when there is a contraindication for surgery. Radiation should be done in small doses of 2 Gy or less until a total dose of 6-23.5 Gy is reached, which is the recommended radiation dosage (13).



Figure 3. CT scan of an iliopsoas muscle hematoma in a hemophilic patient.

Surgical treatment of pseudotumors should be performed in centers specialized in congenital coagulopathies and by a multidisciplinary team (hematologists, orthopedic surgeons, etc.). The main postoperative complications are infection, fistulation, pathological fractures (which may sometimes require amputation of the affected extremity) and even the death of the patient.

Table 1 summarises the most important publications in the literature on hemophilic pseudotumors (10, 14-54).

True tumors that mimic hemophilic pseudotumors

Sometimes we can find true tumours that mimic hemophilic pseudotumors, such as chondrosarcoma, liposarcoma, and synovial sarcoma (55, 56). A series of six cases in which surgery was performed under the diagnosis of pseudotumor has been published, confirming that they were actually malignant primary neoplasms (57).

Other authors have published the case of a hemophilic patient who suffered a pathological fracture of the tibia. This fracture was presumably due to a pseudotumor but later confirmed to be due to non-Hodgkin's lymphoma (58). The patient unfortunately died. The first known case of a giant gluteal neurofibroma in a 22-year-old hemophilic patient has also been published, which was resolved with satisfactory results by surgical removal (59).

The prevention of pseudotumors is fundamental. This is achieved through accurate diagnosis of muscle hematomas and proper long-term hematological



(a)



(b)

Figure 4. Pseudotumor (bone cyst) of the proximal tibia successfully treated by curettage and filling with cancellous bone: (a) preoperative anteroposterior radiograph of the cyst (arrow); (b) postoperative anteroposterior radiograph.

Table 1. Main data on hemophilic pseudotumors in the literature

AUTHORS	YEAR	FINDINGS
Hampton et al (16)	1990	These authors reported a patient with mild hemophilia who developed a pelvic pseudotumor that was successfully treated with surgery with no evidence of recurrence five years after operation.
Marisavljević et al (17)	1991	This article dealt with the successful extirpation of a femoral pseudotumor in a 53-year-old patient with severe hemophilia A and an inhibitor to factor VIII. A pseudotumor measuring 15 cm in diameter was extirpated.
Heim et al (18)	1997	A 13-year-old boy with severe hemophilia presented with gross swelling of his foot and infrapatellar area. X-rays revealed two separate pseudotumors. The patient underwent a transfemoral amputation.
Maliekel et al (19)	1997	In this report, the authors described an elderly woman who required surgical excision of a large hemophilic pseudotumor adjacent to the left gluteal muscle. The pseudotumor was surgically removed. During an 18-month follow-up period there has been no recurrence of bleeding or of the pseudotumor.
Ishiguro et al (20)	1998	This report presented three surgical cases of pseudotumors involved in a pathological fracture in the extremities. All cases showed a favourable postoperative course.
Heeg et al (21)	1998	The authors reported the case of a patient with a hemophilic pseudotumor of the ilium who developed chronic fistulation, 6 months after <i>en-bloc</i> resection. During the initial resection, the large defect in the iliac wing was filled with bone cement, which may have contributed to formation of the fistula. A second surgical procedure consisted of excision of the fistula and bone cement and the dead space was obliterated by bringing the gluteus medius muscle into the defect. The fistula recurred, however. Re-excision of the fistula and obliteration of the dead space by a pedicled rectus abdominis muscle flap resulted in eradication of the fistula. These authors emphasized the importance of obliterating the dead space that results from large pseudotumor resection. The use of bone cement was not advocated. They concluded that if a fistula does occur, a pedicled rectus abdominis muscle flap may be considered.

Table 1. Continued

Sevilla et al (22)	1999	The authors presented a case of hemophilic pseudotumor of the iliac and caecum with cutaneous fistulas, with a septic process of endogenous origin. It was treated with surgical resection after performing arterial embolization to reduce the pseudotumor's vascularization, thereby reducing its size and the risk of bleeding complications during surgery.
Raj et al (23)	1999	The authors reported a case of a hemophilic pseudotumor in the bony nasal pyramid, and believed this case was also unique on account of it having occurred in a patient with mild hemophilia.
Heaton et al (24)	2000	Two cases of iliopsoas hemophilic pseudotumors were presented by these authors. In one patient, a fistula developed between a pseudotumor and the large bowel. This resulted in an abscess involving the pseudotumor and adjacent tissues. It resolved after 5 years of therapy involving percutaneous drainage and closure of the fistula. The second patient had a massive pseudotumor that had obstructed both ureters. Later he suffered fatal mixed Gram negative septicaemia probably related to erosion into the colon.
Sagarra et al (25)	2000	Surgical or percutaneous treatment and refilling with fibrin sealant was shown to be successful in a 19-year-old male with severe hemophilia B. The pseudotumor, in the upper pad of the left leg, was filled with hydroxyapatite after surgery. The authors suggested that the use of hydroxyapatite is a new and useful option in the surgical treatment of hemophilic pseudotumor.
Bellinazzo et al (26)	2000	The authors reported 4 pseudotumors of the ilium in hemophilia treated by means of exeresis and transposition of the omentum in the residual cavity. The long follow-up of these four patients suggested that this procedure was feasible and curative; local bleeding, infection and fistulation did not recur and the patients remained ambulant with the aid of appropriate devices.
Kale et al (27)	2001	The authors presented imaging findings of a histopathologically proven mandibular hemophilic pseudotumor.
Wexler et al (28)	2001	The authors reported a case of a proximal pseudotumor occurring in a 36-year-old patient with mild von Willebrand disease who made a good recovery with conservative management.
Gupta et al (29)	2001	A case of pseudotumor of the paranasal sinuses occurring in a patient with hemophilia A was reported by these authors. There was a favorable response to combined treatment with radiation therapy and factor VIII replacement.
O'Connell et al (30)	2002	The authors documented the first successful report of the surgical resection of a massive pseudotumor in a patient with high responding FVIII inhibitors.
Stevenson and Keast (31)	2002	The authors described a case of epistaxis due to a mass in the maxillary antrum that when biopsied had the histological appearance of a hemophilic pseudotumor. The epistaxis was eventually controlled by external beam radiotherapy to the pseudotumor.
Eby et al (32)	2002	The authors reported a 41-year-old patient with type 3 von Willebrand disease who underwent incomplete resection of a large retroperitoneal pseudocyst in 1995 and presented with a recurrent, extensive right abdominal and flank mass and signs and symptoms of large bowel obstruction. He required emergency partial colectomy for bowel ischaemia and removal of his right kidney, which was hydronephrotic due to prolonged ureteral obstruction by the pseudocyst. Following repeat partial resection of the pseudotumor, he developed persistent bleeding into the operative site despite aggressive administration of von Willebrand factor-rich factor VIII concentrates, resulting in retroperitoneal hematomas and abscesses, which resolved after 13 months of percutaneous drainage, extended supplementation of von Willebrand factor and antibiotic therapy.
Keller et al (33)	2002	The authors reported on a 45-year-old man with hemophilia A and high inhibitor titres who developed an extensive hemophilic pseudotumor with progressive destruction of the right ilium over a 12-year period.
Takedani et al (34)	2004	The authors described a patient with hemophilia A and factor VIII inhibitor who underwent surgical excision of a large pseudotumor in the left femoral region. The pseudotumor was surgically removed.
Libby and White (35)	2004	The authors present the fourth case describing intracranial pseudotumor in hemophilia.

Table 1. Continued

O'Dowd et al (36)	2006	The authors presented an extremely unusual presentation where a large hemophilic pseudotumor of the pelvis extended to impinge the adjacent colon, resulting in large bowel obstruction.
Valentino et al (14)	2006	The successful removal of the giant pseudotumor described in this case report was achieved by a multidisciplinary team and demonstrated that this approach, albeit associated with significant risk, may be curative.
Ahuja et al (37)	2007	The authors described the management of a young boy with mild hemophilia A and a massive iliac pseudotumor with a multi-modality approach involving factor replacement, radiation therapy, embolization and surgery. The patient was initially treated with recombinant factor VIII and radiation therapy. Because of inadequate response and worsening of bony erosion, the patient had a preoperative embolization followed by surgical excision. The surgical procedure was associated with minimal blood loss and the patient had a relatively smooth postoperative course with no physical morbidity.
Rey et al (38)	2007	The authors reported three cases of pseudotumor of the mandible in young patients with mild hemophilia A.
Al Saadi et al (39)	2008	The authors presented the case of a 20-year-old male patient with a six-month history of left leg weakness, limited movement and muscle wasting. He was diagnosed clinically as having a psoas muscle rhabdomyosarcoma. During a CT-guided Tru-cut biopsy, he developed a serious and life-threatening bleed from a retroperitoneal muscular hematoma. The patient underwent laparotomy prior to his final diagnosis of an iliopsoas pseudotumor.
D'Young (40)	2009	Two cases were described where physiotherapy treatment was applied to large masses at the shoulder and femur respectively, where therapy commenced within the first 6 months following onset. These were presented relative to a case that was managed over a much longer period without early physiotherapy input, and the relative outcomes are examined. While both the early physiotherapy-managed cases showed a complete resolution at follow-up examination, the more established chronic pseudotumor required surgical excision, with significant residual muscle contractility, length and strength issues noted on clinical and MRI review.
Toepfer et al (41)	2008	The authors presented the case of a 59-year-old male patient suffering from a hemophilic pseudotumor of the right distal femur. After verification of the diagnosis by means of an open biopsy, final surgery with curettage and plompage with bone cement was performed.
Shi et al (42)	2009	The authors presented imaging findings of a histopathologically proven hemophilic pseudotumor involving the left mandibular region in a 9-year-old Chinese boy.
Bernstaedt et al (43)	2009	The authors reported on two patients with hemophilic pseudotumors who did not respond to intensive factor replacement therapy. Therefore, the pseudotumors had to be removed surgically in both cases.
Petratos et al (44)	2009	The authors reported a case of a large pseudotumor in the right talus of an 11-year-old boy with severe hemophilia A. The described intraosseous lesion was treated with surgical curettage and autologous bone grafting. Twenty months after surgery, computed tomography scan showed no signs of recurrence. Forty months after surgery, radiological studies confirmed satisfactory incorporation of the graft and no evidence of bone growth disturbance. At the same time, he was able to fully participate in his daily activities, presenting painless and almost full range of motion of his right ankle joint.
Yoshitake et al (45)	2011	A hemophilic pseudotumor was identified in the mandible of a 5-year-old male with severe hemophilia A. The patient initially experienced painless swelling of the mandible. CT revealed a marked enlargement of the lower right mandibular border, which was associated with a low-density area, and irregular absorption of the lingual cortex bone. A malignant tumour was suspected and a biopsy was performed after the administration of coagulation factor (Factor VII). A histopathologic diagnosis of hemophilic pseudotumor was made and the patient subsequently underwent surgical treatment. A cavity was created in the multilocular bone cyst and surgical curettage and irrigation were performed with the same haemorrhagic control as in the biopsy procedure. The multilocular cyst was contained within a hematoma and was surrounded by thin granular tissue. Three years after surgery, no abnormal signs were detected by radiography during follow-up examinations.
Liu et al (46)	2011	An HIV infected hemophilia patient with a huge inflammatory pseudotumor was severely ill. Right hip joint amputation was performed with perioperative infusion of coagulation factor VIII and highly active antiretroviral therapy (HAART). Pathology studies revealed inflammatory cell infiltration, formation of folliculus lymphaticus, muscular fibre breakage, fibrous tissue hyperplasia, and necrosis in both soft tissue and bone were seen in an inflammatory pseudotumor. The vital signs remained stable during the operation and patient's overall health improved significantly ten months after operation.

Table 1. Continued

Yang et al (47)	2012	The authors reported three pediatric patients with histology-proven hemophilic pseudotumors arising from the maxillary bone. All three patients underwent CT and/or MRI. Combined with six previously reported cases in the literature, the imaging features were comprehensively analyzed.
Panotopoulos et al (48)	2012	The authors reported six patients with hemophilic pseudotumors. The mean age at surgery was 45.9 (range, 40-61) years. The iliac bone was affected in three patients (one right, two left), the right tibia (distal diaphysis) in one, the right thigh in two and the right ulna (proximal part) in one patient. One patient had two pseudotumors. At the latest follow-up after 8.4 (range, 4-24) years, normal healing with no recurrence was observed.
Serban et al (49)	2012	The authors presented a 14-year follow-up of a patient with severe hemophilia A, treated sporadically with fresh plasma, cryoprecipitate and factor concentrates, who developed a giant iliopsoas pseudotumor. Since he was an infant with on-demand therapy with fresh frozen plasma, cryoprecipitate and low doses of factor concentrates, he presented many spontaneous bleeds, developing multiple disabling arthropathies. At the age of 14 years, an iliopsoas hematoma occurred, which relapsed several times, developing an iliopsoas pseudotumor. After 5 years, Klebsiella sepsis was diagnosed. A CT scan revealed a fistula between the pseudotumor and the gut. The sepsis improved on antibiotics, but over a period of 10 months, 5 episodes of hematemesis and melena, followed by one episode of macroscopic haematuria occurred; two months later he developed an inguino-crural mass which fistulised through the abdominal wall. After 108 hospitalization days and consumption of 104840 IU of factor VIII, he left the clinic in good condition. One year later, the temporary colostomy with anus stoma was closed. After almost 10 years, follow-up revealed a favourable outcome. The patient was well, active within his family and profession.
Lim et al (50)	2014	The authors described the clinical features and management of hemophilic pseudotumor by retrospectively reviewing the medical records of hemophilia patients with a diagnosis of pseudotumor seen at their Hemophilia Center from 1981 to 2011. They identified 12 pseudotumors in 11 patients over a 30-year period. Six patients had known inhibitors or a history of inhibitor. An etiological antecedent leading to the development of pseudotumor was reported in nine cases. The location of the pseudotumor was confined to soft tissue (n = 3) and bone (n = 8). Six of the 12 pseudotumors (50%) were not diagnosed at the time of initial presentation, with a delay ranging from 6 weeks to 6 years. In eight cases, surgical intervention (surgical drainage, n = 2; excision, n = 4; limb amputation, n = 2) was the initial treatment, with complete resolution in six cases. Conservative management with close monitoring occurred in three cases, with one case subsequently requiring surgical resection.
Low et al (51)	2014	The authors reported a case of a 43-year-old man with hemophilia A who presented with a gradually enlarging left thigh mass for 8 months. There were no constitutional symptoms. Plain radiograph showed an expansile lytic lesion with 'soap-bubble' appearance arising from the left femoral diaphysis. On MRI, it appeared as a non-enhancing, multilobulated lesion expanding the medullary and subperiosteal spaces. The mass exhibited a concentric ring sign with heterogeneous intermediate signal intensity in the core lesion, reflective of chronic hematoma with blood degradation products of different stages. A diagnosis of hemophilic pseudotumor was made. Hypercalcemia, however, raised a diagnostic dilemma as bone malignancy needed to be considered. An open excisional biopsy and subsequent amputation confirmed the diagnosis of osseous hemophilic pseudotumor. Nuclear medicine study later revealed a concurrent parathyroid adenoma.
Kamal et al (52)	2014	The authors reported on a 30-year-old hemophilic man with a pelvic pseudotumor compressing adjacent structures causing pain and swelling and destruction of surrounding soft tissues and bones. He underwent evacuation of the pseudotumor, acetabular reconstruction using the Harrington procedure, and total hip arthroplasty.
Purkait et al (53)	2014	This report described an 11-year-old boy with mild factor IX deficiency (17 % of normal factor IX activity), who developed a pseudotumor of the femur.
Caviglia et al (10)	2015	The aim of this study was to show the treatment of 10 pseudotumors in 7 patients with inhibitors. Eight were bone pseudotumors and two were soft tissue pseudotumors. Only one patient responded to conservative treatment. Surgery was performed on the others six patients, since their pseudotumors did not shrink to less than half their original size.
Dutt et al (54)	2015	In this case report, the authors described the natural history, clinical course and successful surgical management of a patient with hemophilia who presented with a massive pseudotumor.

Table 1. Continued

Kwon et al (55)	2016	The authors reported a case of hemophilic pseudotumor in two parts of the maxilla. Contrast CT revealed an expansive and thinly corticated lesion with fluid attenuation at the left anterior maxilla which appeared to be a postoperative maxillary cyst, ameloblastoma or odontogenic cyst. In addition, the thickened left palatal process of the maxilla appeared to be fibrous dysplasia or an intraosseous vascular malformation.
Kumar et al (56)	2018	The authors reported a rare case of mandibular pseudotumor in a patient with moderate hemophilia and Glanzmann's thrombasthenia, treated successfully with decompression of the hematoma. Following decompression, serial radiographs revealed spontaneous bone regeneration at the site of the lesion. At 2 year follow-up, the mandible had no residual lesion.

treatment until their resolution (confirmed by imaging studies). Ultrasound-guided percutaneous evacuation could be beneficial in terms of achieving better and faster symptom relief. Biopsy will help us confirm the diagnosis and rule out true tumours that sometimes mimic hemophilic pseudotumors. Radical surgical removal of hemophilic pseudotumors is the best solution. Alternatives include curettage and filling with cancellous bone and radiotherapy (when surgery is contraindicated). Preoperative arterial embolization (ideally 2 weeks before surgery) will help control intra-operative bleeding during surgical removal of a giant pelvic pseudotumor.

The main limitation of the literature on hemophilic pseudotumors is that all publications have a low degree of evidence (case reports, case series, expert opinion, etc). However, it cannot be forgotten that this is a very infrequent and potentially serious injury.

E. Carlos Rodriguez-Merchan MD PhD¹
1 Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, La Paz University Hospital-IdiPaz, Paseo de la Castellana, Madrid, Spain

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