Note to the Babysitter

My son has a medical condition called hemophilia. He was born with it and will have it all his life. It is not something one person catches from another.

Many people think that someone with hemophilia will bleed to death in a short time. This is not true. My son will not bleed faster than anyone else. He will, though, sometimes bleed longer than other people. He has to be given a special medicine called factor. The factor is put directly into one of his veins with a needle. The factor makes the bleeding stop.

Small cuts and scrapes usually stop bleeding on their own if you press down on them. They are rarely a problem. If my son is seriously hurt, he may need to get a shot of the factor. I do not expect you to give this shot but you should know when to call me.

Please call me right away if my son is hurt or says he has pain in his head, throat, neck, stomach area, or groin area. You can let me know about little bumps or knocks when I return. You may find it helpful to jot down notes about injuries.

Please do not give my son any medicine. He is never to take aspirin!

If you aren't sure whether or not to call me about my son, please do call. I'll be glad to stop what I am doing and talk with you. I know how hard it can be to know what to do. If my son does need to get his factor medicine, I will want him to take it as soon as possible. If he gets it soon he is less likely to have problems later.

Other than hemophilia, my son is no different from other boys. He enjoys the same things other boys his age enjoy. He runs and plays and should be treated and made to mind the same as any other young boy.

The few things we do not let him do are:

See the list of emergency phone numbers on the next page.

Here are emergency phone numbers:

Our cell phone numbers:

Police:

Fire:

Ambulance:

Poison Control: 1-800-222-1222

Neighbor:

My child's hemophilia doctor:

Other:

You will need to know the address and phone number here to tell the emergency operator.

Our address:

Our phone number:

The nearest hospital that can treat my son is:

If you have to call an ambulance, send the driver to this hospital. Give the driver a copy of my son's medical ID card and information letter.

These papers are located:

Other instructions: