# The art of ageing with long-term conditions

Dr. Cees Smit, Patient Advocate EMM2023, Stockholm, May 26/27, 2023

Behind every patient there is a long history

Ageing, comorbidity and the 'fear' factor

The need for coordination & vision (integrated care)

#### Key messages

#### Hemophilia, a rare disease

Characterized by spontaneous bleeding in muscles and joints or by trauma (accidents, operations)

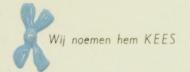
No treatment possibilities before 1965

#### Hemophilia

Heden werden wij verblijd met de geboorte van ons zoontje en broertje

#### CORNELIS

M. SMIT-KROON
J. SMIT
en WILLY



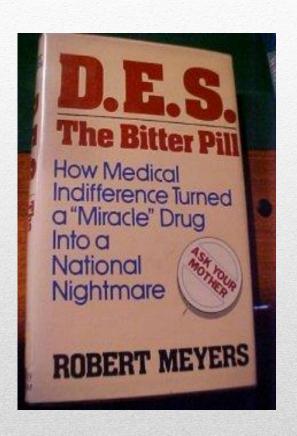
Nieuwe Niedorp, 1 Januari 1951 Laagzijde B 249





#### A carefree start





## A period full of concern







#### Medical progress 1965-2023





## Home treatment



#### Medical drawbacks

From 'unmet medical need'  $\rightarrow$  good treatment

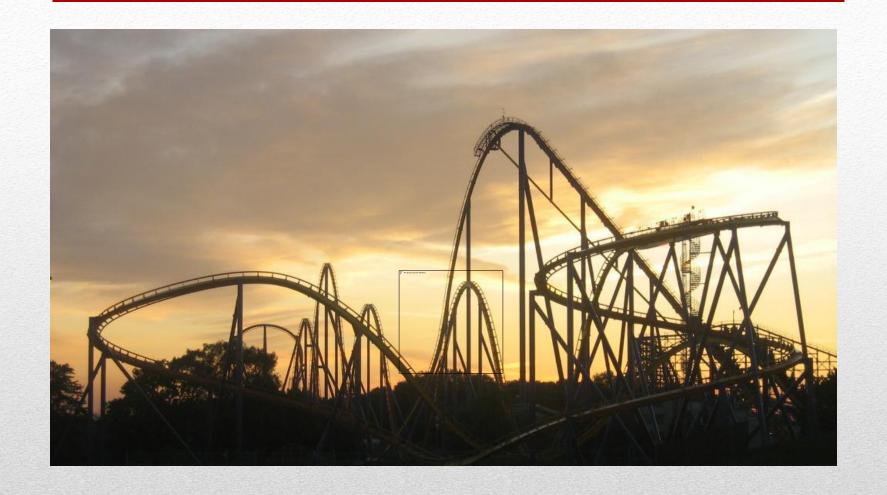
Haemophilia (70's)

HIV (90's)

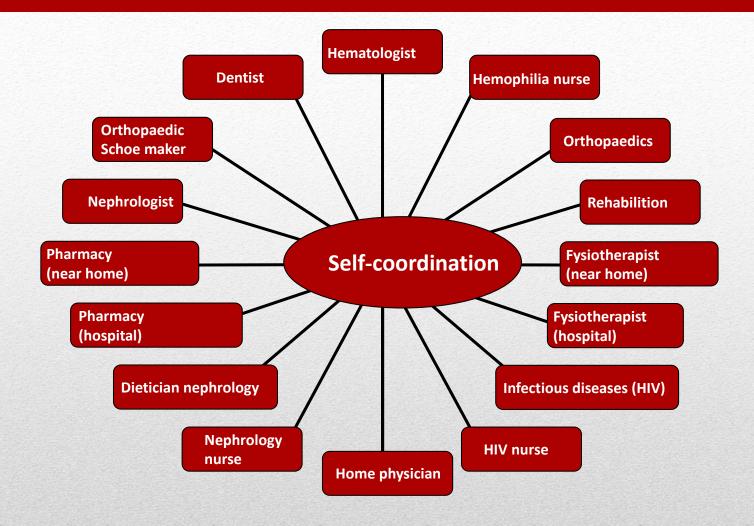
HCV (2015)

Consequences: from paediatrics to care for older people

#### Remarkable transitions



# Rollercoaster



#### Contact circle

Bad joints and muscles

Stiffness, especially getting out of bed or standing up after a period of long rest

Limited walking possibilities, shopping

Tiredness because of viral infections/renal problems

Limited labour possibilities or social activities

Comorbidity as a consequence of ageing

What if your partner becomes ill?

#### Hemophilia & getting older









## Nevertheless

#### Three problems:

Comorbidity & the use of multiple medications (polypharmacy)

Lack of coordination between physicians and paramedics, which requires self-coordination

Who can and is willing to take over your selfmanagement when you aren't able to perform that yourself?

And who recognizes this timely?

#### The 'fear' factor

Hemophiliacenter/ HIV center/Nephrology center

Home physician

Other medical specialist/nurse practitioner/geriatrics

Nurse coordinator for the elderly/nursing home

Extension of own social network

#### Who is coordinating

You are on waiting lists like anyone else, but at more cost (loss of strength while on a waiting list)

Your rehabilitation is different from healthy elderly And even managing daily life is different (partner ill)

The trend towards self-management should be combined with regular physic assessments & training stays providing a mental & physical boost

(Swedish Hemophilia Society: Tenerife/Gran Canaria) Cerebral Palsy Denmark focused rehab & Agrenska (SW)

#### **Eurordis & Terkel Andersen**



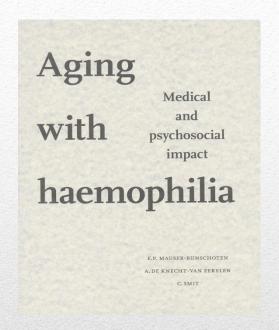
#### Ageing needs a new care vision

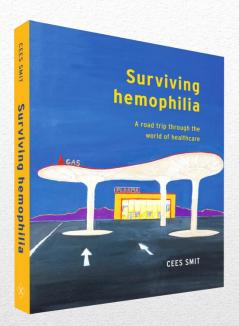
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# For more information info@smitvisch.nl www.smitvisch.nl