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**Landmark Hemophilia Study Involving Phoenix Children's Published
in *New England Journal of Medicine***

*Multi-institution report shows prophylaxis can help prevent joint bleeding, damage;
Treatment in place at Phoenix Children's for more than 10 years*

PHOENIX, Ariz. (August 17, 2007) – The *New England Journal of Medicine* has published a landmark study involving researchers from several major institutions, including Phoenix Children's Hospital, that will likely make living with hemophilia a whole lot easier for pediatric patients. The study, "Prophylaxis versus Episodic Treatment to Prevent Joint Disease in Boys with Severe Hemophilia," showed that preventive treatment with prophylaxis can help prevent joint bleeding in children with hemophilia A – and improve these patients' chances of enjoying normal, active childhoods. Co-authored by Phoenix Children's Director of Hematology, Michael Recht, MD, PhD, the study appears in Volume 357 of the *Journal* published on August 9, 2007 (Online at <http://content.nejm.org/cgi/content/full/357/6/535>).

"We have been recommending this very therapy to our patients for more than 10 years," said Recht. "We believe the results of this study will now make the prevention of bleeding episodes part of the standard of care elsewhere throughout the country."

Children born with hemophilia A – the most common type of hemophilia – suffer from prolonged or spontaneous bleeding, especially into the muscles, joints, or internal organs. Joints exposed to repeated bleeding often sustain significant damage that is painful and costly to treat. Furthermore, bleeding can result in long-term inflammation and deterioration of the joint, and ultimately lead to loss of mobility.

Sixty five boys with hemophilia A, ages six months to 30 months, were enrolled in the five-year study. Ninety three percent of boys who received preventive prophylactic treatment had normal joints at the age

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of six. By comparison, only 55 percent who received episodic treatment had normal joints at the same age.

“This study is likely the most important study done in hemophilia in the past 10 years,” said Cheryl Gallaga, Clinical Manager of Phoenix Children's Center for Cancer and Blood Disorders.

The study was conducted at 15 hemophilia treatment centers in the United States, and was supported by grants from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the National Institutes of Health. Bayer HealthCare also donated supplies for the study.

“This study really proves collaborations can play a significant role in advancing the treatment of chronic and rare health conditions,” said Bob Meyer, President and CEO of Phoenix Children's. “Phoenix Children's has worked hard in recent years to develop these collaborations to find leading edge treatments for our patients.”

Phoenix Children's Hemophilia Center, part of the Hospital's Center for Cancer and Blood Disorder, is the largest program of its kind in Arizona and is making a significant difference in the quality of life for pediatric and adult hemophilia patients. It is one of only two federally funded hemophilia treatment programs in the state.

Phoenix Children's Hospital is Arizona's leader in pediatric care and is one of the 10 largest children's hospitals in the nation. The most comprehensive array of pediatric specialists in the state practice at this one organization. The outstanding clinical expertise, as well as high patient volume, and an unwavering commitment to caring only for children, all contribute to Phoenix Children's leadership position. For information, visit the Hospital's Web site at www.phoenixchildrens.com.