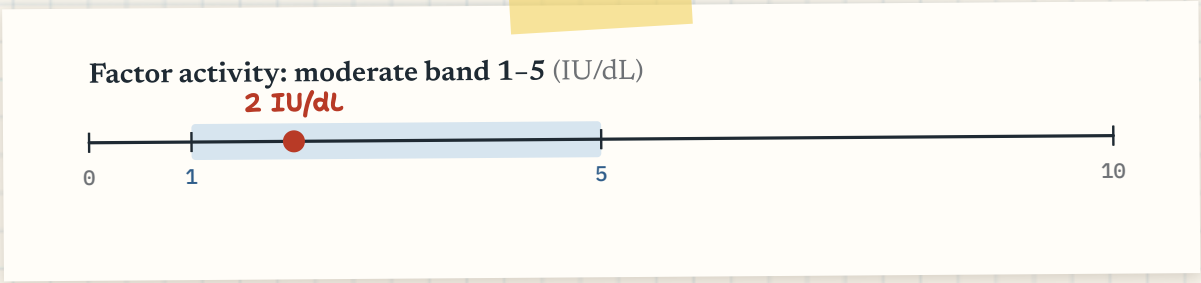
VWD vs haemophilia

Bleeding pattern, bleeding time, PTT, factor levels



Step by step

1. Where is the bleeding: deep or mucosal?
2. Bleeding time: normal or prolonged?
3. PTT alone does not separate them
4. Factor levels settle it

	Haemophilia	VWD
Bleeding	Deep: joints, muscles	Mucocutaneous
Bleeding time	Normal	Usually long
PTT	Usually long	May be normal
PT	Normal	Normal
Factors	Low VIII or IX	Low VWF; VIII normal or low

Haemophilia vs von Willebrand disease

VWF does two jobs

Platelet glue (adhesion to collagen)
Factor VIII carrier (protects it)
Lose it and both stages suffer

Exam traps

- A long PTT does not mean haemophilia: it can occur in VWD.
- Haemophilia has a normal bleeding time.
- VWD gives mucocutaneous, not joint, bleeding (haemarthrosis is rare).
- Moderate haemophilia: factor activity 1–5 IU/dL.

Von Willebrand disease vs haemophilia: the labs that separate them

Video, written lesson, practice question and sources: medservatory.com/usmle-step-1/haematology-oncology/von-willebrand-disease-vs-haemophilia

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