A FIRST FOR HEMOPHILIA AS CHRIS BOMBARDIER SUMMITS EVEREST

Mount Everest stretches up and touches the sky at 29,029 feet, a full 14,590 feet higher than the highest peak in Colorado. For any hiker, it is an incredible feat to climb one of the more than 50 mountains that are above 14,000 feet in our state, but they all pale in comparison to Everest.

Hence, it is no surprise that during the month of May many of our HTC staff began checking Facebook often to hear the latest from Chris Bombardier as he made his way up Mount Everest. Chris grew up in Colorado, is a patient at our center, spent time working here, and is a huge part of the local NHF community—including helping start their Backpacks & Bleeders program.

Chris has severe hemophilia B and, like many of our patients, he must infuse himself with Factor IX on a regular basis to have the right amount of clotting factor in his blood. To make such a strenuous and extended climb he had to bring his factor and supplies, make a special effort to keep his medication from freezing, and carefully plan and infuse before climbs to prevent bleeding. His public push to climb the tallest mountain in the world proved that so much can be accomplished even in the face of a difficult diagnosis such as hemophilia B.

He has already climbed some of the highest peaks around the world, infusing along the way. Mount Everest is the sixth of seven peaks in his quest to hike the Seven Summits, the highest mountain on each continent in the world. Chris is motivated by his desire to help bring awareness and support to those with bleeding disorders around the world. During his trip to make his historic climb he met with local members of the Nepal hemophilia community and carried a flag with their names up to the top.

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Outreach clinics allow patients to schedule their annual comprehensive visits at a location closer to their home. The clinics in Montana and Grand Junction are usually a few days once a year, while our Colorado Springs clinic is held quarterly.

Our staff reach out to local patients, but if these clinics are more convenient to your location and you would like to know more, please contact Pat Casias at 303-724-1325, Audra LeBlanc at 303-724-6163, or speak with our front desk schedulers at 888-297-0724 or 303-724-0724.

Details, forms and maps to these locations are available on our website at: [www.medschool.ucdenver.edu/htc](http://www.medschool.ucdenver.edu/htc). Click on the CLINIC tab and find the OUTREACH CLINICS page.

**Upcoming clinics:**
- **TBD August:** Colorado Springs, Colorado
- **Sept 27-29, 2017:** Grand Junction, Colorado
On May 22, 2017 at 9:59am, Chris Bombardier became the first person with hemophilia to summit Mount Everest. He dedicated his journey and shared his victory by declaring:

“For every child who has been told no due to their bleeding disorder. For every patient wondering when his next dose of life-saving clotting factor will be. For every family who has plans derailed by hemophilia. For every parent who goes to bed in agony not understanding how to treat their child’s disorder. For every hemophiliac athlete who waits in quiet hesitation out of fear of injury. For all of us overcoming the impossible. This mountain is for you.”

It is with relief and joy that we at the HTC wish him the warmest congratulations at his incredible accomplishment. He told us, "I have to thank the HTC for being so supportive of this crazy endeavor. They easily could've said no but they are always working with patients to help them achieve their dreams!"

We could not be more thrilled that Chris was able to make his dream a reality and hope that he and others can continue to blaze a path and help others in the bleeding disorder community achieve dreams of their own. Having examples such as Chris, proving what can be done with proper care and careful effort, can make a world of difference to families who are just learning of a new diagnosis and are unsure what kind of life is ahead.

You can follow Chris and learn more about his adventures on his Facebook page at www.facebook.com/AdventuresOfAHemophiliac, on his blog at www.adventuresofahemophiliac.com, and a website dedicated to a production on his climb at www.bombardierblood.com. To learn about the Backpacks & Bleeders program or NHF Colorado go to www.cohemo.org.

The historic climb was documented by Believe Limited, a production company and digital content agency led by fellow hemophiliac Patrick James Lynch. Production is underway for a documentary, as well as smaller series of episodes that will highlight the climb, and the involvement Chris and fellow climbers had in supporting those with hemophilia in Nepal and other places around the world.

Watch for more information on the documentary Bombardier Blood and other productions about the climb at www.bombardierblood.com.

To learn more about Save One Life and how you can help families with hemophilia around the world, go to www.saveonelife.net.

Thank you Chris for your huge spirit, for climbing mountains, and sharing your adventures!
These are a few of the headlines that we’ve recently featured on our Newsroom page or on Facebook.

**FDA Accepts Investigational New Drug Application for Hemophilia A Treatment**

**Man with Severe Hemophilia Talks about Climbing Mount Everest**

**Iowa Teen’s $1 Million-per-month Illness No Longer a Secret**

**Sangamo Receives Fast Track Designation from FDA for SB-525 Gene Therapy**

**FDA Approves Novo Nordisk’s Rebinyn to Treat Hemophilia B**

We maintain a Newsroom page at our website with a list of the news we feel may be of interest to our patients and families. To see more go to: [www.medschool.ucdenver.edu/htc](http://www.medschool.ucdenver.edu/htc) then find the RESOURCES tab, and go to the NEWSROOM page. Find other stories at our Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/ColoradoHTC/](http://www.facebook.com/ColoradoHTC/)

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**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Mark Your Calendars:**

**July 4:** Clinic, Pharmacy, & Admin offices closed for Independence Day

**July 11:** Pediatric Stroke Parent Support Group meeting

**July 14-15:** Mile High Summer Camp-Leadership Retreat

**July 16-21:** Mile High Summer Camp

**Aug 9:** Self-Infusion Clinic at the HTC clinic

**Aug 26:** NHF Colorado 2017 Walk for Hemophilia—Sloan’s Lake Park

**Aug 27:** Pediatric Stroke Parent Support Group Summer Picnic—Sloan’s Lake Park

**Sept 4:** Clinic, Pharmacy, & Admin offices closed for Labor Day

See more at our Events Page on our website: [www.medschool.ucdenver.edu/htc](http://www.medschool.ucdenver.edu/htc) find RESOURCES tab, go to EVENTS