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Gift of Factor IX from Kedrion

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It's time to give back

With donations of factor IX difficult to come by, imagine our surprise when Project SHARE recently received over \$1.1 million worth of factor IX. The gift was from Kedrion S.p.A., a global biopharmaceutical company headquartered in Italy, which specializes in the development, production, and distribution of plasma-derived products.

“We chose to donate our product to Project SHARE because the organization has an established relationship with an extensive network of hospitals worldwide, and a very strong reputation in the hemophilia community,” notes Federico Rolando, Corporate Business Development at Kedrion and Operations Director at Kedrion Biopharma Inc. “We very much admire the efforts that Project SHARE has made over the years in order to provide factor to people in developing countries, and for this reason we are

proud to work with them and support them in their mission.”

The lucky recipient of this lifesaving gift was India, where the donated factor was distributed to many of the country's hemophilia chapters. Because of the high population of hemophilia patients in India, Project SHARE decided this was a country that needed our help.

“This donation was wonderful!” exclaims Dr. Kanjaksha Ghosh, president, Hemophilia Federation (India). “Think of all the hemophilia patients we were able to help. India has approximately 13,270 registered hemophilia patients, so the need for factor is great.”

In 2010, Laurie Kelley visited hemophilia patients at King Edward Memorial (KEM) Hospital, Mumbai. “Laurie and I discussed various challenges faced by the patients,” recalls Dr. Ghosh, “such as the difficulty of getting factor for their important surgical procedures.” The extremely high price of factor IX in India makes it

unaffordable for most of the 1,946 registered hemophilia B patients.

Then, less than one year later, the Kedrion donation of over 1 million IU of factor IX concentrates arrived in the form of AIMA IX and Uman Complex.

Hemophilia Federation (India) chapters shared 85% of the donated factor. The remaining 15% was kept at KEM Hospital to be used for surgeries. The donated factor, adds Dr. Ghosh, “has already saved four patients' lives in Pondicherry, Kunnankulam, and Chennai.”

For the many hemophilia B patients in India, says Dr. Ghosh, the precious factor donation “would have never been possible without the sympathetic ear, magnanimous heart, and Midas touch of both organizations.” @

Kedrion Biopharma Inc. is now the exclusive distributor of Koate®-DVI in the United States.

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