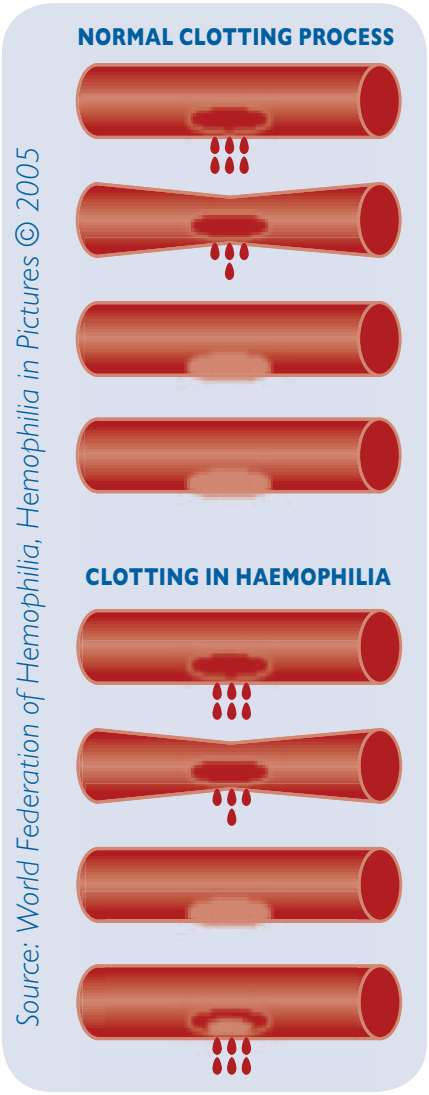
HOW BLEEDING STARTS AND STOPS



- The capillary (small blood vessel) is injured and blood leaks out.
- The capillary tightens up to slow the bleeding.
- Then blood cells called platelets make a plug to patch the hole.
- Next, many clotting factors in plasma (part of the blood) knit together to make a clot over the plug. This makes the plug stronger and stops the bleeding.
- In haemophilia, there is not enough factor for the clot to stay together, so bleeding continues for longer than usual, but not faster.