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NEWS RELEASE

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS SOUTHWESTERN MEDICAL SCHOOL AT DALLAS



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DALLAS --- Dr. Charles C. Sprague, dean of The University of Texas Southwestern Medical School at Dallas, has been named chairman of a newly formed government liaison committee of the National Hemophilia Foundation.

Dr. Sprague, who has been a member of the Foundation's medical advisory committee for a number of years, said that the new committee will work with congressional committees and government agencies to seek financial assistance for hemophiliac patients.

"Paying for the treatment of one hemophiliac patient requires between \$15,000 and \$25,000 a year," Dr. Sprague said. "This places treatment out of reach for most hemophiliac families."

Hemophilia, often called the Bleeders Disease, is an inherited disease -- for which at present there is no cure -- in which the clotting of blood is abnormally delayed, due, at least in part, to a deficiency of an essential agent for coagulation. The condition most often is hereditary.

The National Hemophilia Foundation is a voluntary health agency with local chapters across the nation, formed to improve the care and treatment of the hemophiliac.

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