

and control of side effects (Mátrai, Chuah, and VandenDriessche, 2010; Montgomery, Gill, and DiPaola, 2009; Sharathkumar and Carcoa, 2011).

## Quality Patient Outcomes: Hemophilia

- Early recognition of signs and symptoms of hemophilia
- Bleeding episodes prevented
- Bleeding episodes treated early with factor replacement
- Adherence to prophylactic factor replacement program when indicated
- Hemarthrosis prevented when possible with limited joint damage
- Exercise program and physical therapy ongoing

## Nursing Care Management

The earlier a bleeding episode is recognized, the more effectively it can be treated. Signs that indicate internal bleeding are especially important to recognize. Children are aware of internal bleeding and are reliable in telling the examiner the location of an internal bleed. In addition to the manifestations described (Box 24-5), the nurse maintains a high level of suspicion when a child with hemophilia shows signs such as headache, slurred speech, loss of consciousness (from cerebral bleeding), and black, tarry stools (from GI bleeding).

### Box 24-5

## Clinical Manifestations of Hemophilia

- Prolonged bleeding anywhere from or in the body
- Hemorrhage from any trauma: Loss of deciduous teeth, circumcision, cuts, epistaxis, injections
- Excessive bruising, even from a slight injury, such as a fall