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[< Previous](#) | [Next >](#)**Molecular weights of antihaemophilic factor and von Willebrand factor proteins in human plasma**

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HUMAN factor VIII contains at least two biological activities, antihaemophilic factor (AHF) and von Willebrand factor (VWF). When highly purified, factor VIII is estimated to have a molecular weight of over 1.12×10^6 , as determined by gel chromatography or sedimentation equilibrium centrifugation^{1–4}. Some investigators^{2–4} consider factor VIII a single glycoprotein with a number of covalently linked subunits. Since factor VIII can be dissociated in certain conditions, others^{5–7} consider it to be a two-molecule complex consisting of a multi-subunit high molecular weight protein ($> 10^6$) with VWF activity that acts as a carrier molecule for a lower molecular weight (2.4×10^5) subunit with AHF activity. A third model suggests that both AHF and VWF are high molecular weight, separate proteins consisting of disulphide linked subunits^{8,9}.

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