

The Immune System

It's our only defense but it doesn't work for everyone.

Each and every day, your body fights off infections, germs, bacteria and viruses. These invaders, called pathogens, are destroyed by the body's number one defense, the immune system.

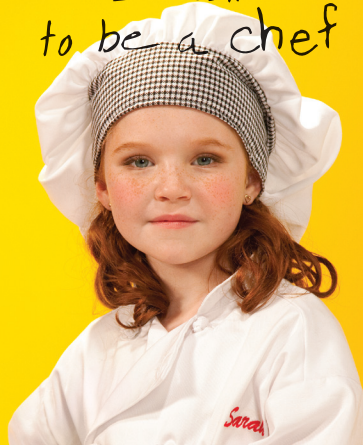
Some people are born with immune systems that don't work as well as others. This could be due to Primary Immunodeficiency (PI), which might cause a person to be sick more often than others.

What Is PI?

Primary Immunodeficiencies (PI) are a group of more than 200 disorders of the immune system with varying degrees of severity. They occur when one or more essential parts of the immune system do not work correctly.

People with PI cannot get rid of pathogens or protect themselves from these pathogens as well as they should, causing frequent infections and other problems that are hard to cure. Infections may appear to be common illnesses such as sinus and ear infections, pneumonia, fever, common colds and bronchitis.

When I grow up,
I want
to be a chef



10 WARNING SIGNS OF PI

1. Four or more new ear infections within 1 year.
2. Two or more serious sinus infections within 1 year.
3. Two or more months on antibiotics with little effect.
4. Two or more pneumonias within 1 year.
5. Failure of an infant to gain weight or grow normally.
6. Recurrent, deep skin or organ abscesses.
7. Persistent thrush in mouth or fungal infection on skin.
8. Need for intravenous antibiotics to clear infections.
9. Two or more deep-seated infections including septicemia.
10. A family history of PI.

Why Getting Help Is Important

Today patients with PI are able to gain and maintain control of their lives with treatment and intervention:

- ★ They are able to participate in work, school, family and social activities.
- ★ They have fewer and less severe infections.
- ★ They feel good about their treatment programs and, most importantly, themselves.

Failure to diagnose PI can lead to an increased number and severity of infections, frequent interruptions in work, school, family and social activities, and a lifetime of serious illness, including permanent organ damage. There are many treatment options that can help patients diagnosed with PI lead healthier lives.

Last year Tommy was too sick to dream.

He has Primary Immunodeficiency or PI. Thanks to the Jeffrey Modell Foundation he was properly diagnosed and treated...

Now Tommy can become a hero too. ♡

*BECAUSE OF THE
JEFFREY MODEL FOUNDATION
I HAVE A CHANCE*

About JMF

Vicki and Fred Modell established the Jeffrey Modell Foundation, a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, in 1987, in memory of their son Jeffrey, who died at the age of fifteen from complications of Primary Immunodeficiency – a genetic condition that is chronic, serious, and often fatal. JMF is a global patient organization devoted to early and precise diagnosis, meaningful treatments, and ultimately, cures - through clinical and basic research, physician education, patient support, advocacy, public awareness and newborn screening.

JMF Centers Network

The Jeffrey Modell Centers Network is comprised of Jeffrey Modell Diagnostic and Research Centers and a Referral Network of hundreds of Expert Immunologists worldwide.

For more information or to locate a qualified immunologist in your area, visit our Website at info4pi.org or call 866-INFO-4-PI.



Jeffrey Modell
Foundation

Curing PI.
Worldwide.

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*WHEN I GROW UP
I WANT TO BE
A FIREMAN!*