

# 7 Warning Signs

When to suspect  
Primary Immune Deficiency.

1. An unusually large number of infections requiring treatment.
2. Infections caused by unusual types of organisms.
3. Infections in unusual places.
4. Infections that do not respond to treatment as expected.
5. A child that does not grow, or put on weight as expected.
6. Family history of an immune deficiency or abnormal infections
7. Any other unusual symptoms related to infections

## A few of the disorders:

Common Variable Immune Disorder - CVID  
Severe Combined Immune Disorder - SCID  
IgA Deficiency  
IgG Subclass Deficiency  
Partial Combined Immunodeficiencies  
Transient Hypogammaglobulinaemia  
Chronic Granulomatous Disease - CGD  
Complement Deficiencies  
Hyper-IgE Syndrome



The Immune Deficiency Foundation Asia-Pacific Alliance, IDFAPA.

An alliance of not-for-profit PID Patient support groups across the Asia Pacific Region.

Contact Us:

Web: [www.idfapa.org](http://www.idfapa.org) Email: [info@idfapa.org](mailto:info@idfapa.org)

Post:

The Immune Deficiency Foundation Asia Pacific Alliance Headquarters  
C/- PO Box 75-076, Manurewa, Auckland, New Zealand

## Members of IDFAPA include:

### IDF USA\*

web: [www.primaryimmune.org](http://www.primaryimmune.org)  
email: [idf@primaryimmune.org](mailto:idf@primaryimmune.org)

40 W. Chesapeake Avenue  
Suite 308  
Towson, MD 21204  
USA

### IDF New Zealand\*

web: [www.idfnz.org.nz](http://www.idfnz.org.nz)  
email: [info@idfnz.org.nz](mailto:info@idfnz.org.nz)

IDFNZ / KIDS Foundation  
PO Box 75-076  
Manurewa, Auckland, NZ.  
Phone: 0508 300 600 (NZ toll free)

### IDF Australia

web: [www.idfaustralia.org](http://www.idfaustralia.org)  
email: [info@idfaustralia.org](mailto:info@idfaustralia.org)

IDF Australia  
PO Box 198, Villawood  
NSW. 2163  
Australia  
Phone: 1800 465 5849 (Aust. toll free)

### IDF Pacific

web: [www.idfpacific.org](http://www.idfpacific.org)  
email: [info@idfpacific.org](mailto:info@idfpacific.org)

IDF Pacific  
PO Box 75-076  
Manurewa, Auckland  
New Zealand.

### IDF Asia

web: [www.idfasia.org](http://www.idfasia.org)  
email: [info@idfasia.org](mailto:info@idfasia.org)

IDF Asia  
PO Box 75-076  
Manurewa, Auckland  
New Zealand.

\* Founder Members

## Living with Primary Immune Deficiency



Over any year a typical child with PID will miss, 70 days of school, make 30 trips to the doctor, spend 15 nights in hospital, have blood transfusions every month and annual medical costs of several thousands of dollars.

### What is Primary Immunodeficiency?

The human body fights infection by means of the immune defence system. Some people are born with an immune system that is faulty. They are missing some, or all of the body's defense weapons. Such people are said to have a Primary Immunodeficiency Disorder (PID).

There are many different PID's, each has different symptoms depending on which part of the immune system is affected. Some deficiencies are deadly and some mild, but the main problem in PID is increased susceptibility to infections.

For people with PID these infections may be common, severe, lasting or hard to cure. Even healthy youngsters may get frequent colds, coughs and earaches. PID children get one infection after another and are chronically ill.

Persistent infections can in turn lead to permanent damage to ears and lungs. Other health problems may involve the heart, digestive tract or nervous system or lead to anaemia, arthritis or autoimmune diseases. Some PID's retard growth and increase the risk of cancer.

### Signs and Symptoms of PID's

PID's are not uncommon, they are sometimes mild and can occur in teenagers and adults as often as children and infants.

Very serious PID's usually become apparent just after birth, many are discovered during a baby's first year. Others, usually the milder forms may not show up until people reach their 20's or 30's. Some inherited PID's never show symptoms.

"Whenever PID is present, the most common problem is repeated infections that are often difficult to treat."

**IDF is a not-for-profit Organisation dedicated to providing families with Support, Advocacy and Education on Primary Immune Deficiency Disorders.**

**Patient membership.** We offer free memberships as it is our belief the price to be eligible to join is high enough.  
**Support.** Staff keep in direct contact with members and have direct experience of PIDs and the day-to-day issues, and are able to offer practical support and understanding. We can introduce families with similar disorders and organise get-togethers bringing groups of families together. We issue a regular newsletter to all members to keep in touch and advise on any current issues affecting members. The welfare arm of IDF in New Zealand and Australia is the Immune Deficient KIDS Foundation which offers financial support to PID children and their families.

**Advocacy.** With chronic illness, it often feels like you are battling alone to gain quality of life. When you join IDF we ask that you readily use the advocacy service when accessing health care or gaining income support.

**Education.** IDF is dedicated to the provision of the latest information on disorders affecting members, empowering families to make well informed life affecting decisions.

**PID Awareness.** IDF is dedicated to raising awareness of PID symptoms, diagnosis and treatment. IDF has access to an expert medical advisory panel, offering regular information and seminars to medical professionals and the public.

**PID Research.** IDF founder members have been instrumental in establishing PID research and testing, and in enabling PID patients to have access to an expert panel of scientists specialising in the genetics of PID. This expertise is now available internationally to all members of the Alliance.

## Contact Us

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Country: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

- I would like to be sent a PID patient application pack.
- I would like to be sent a Medical Professional's information pack.
- I wish to support the work of IDF Internationally/locally and enclose a donation for \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*(please make cheques out to your local IDF support group)*

Post this completed form to the appropriate IDF office address as listed overleaf.