What is Primary Immune Deficiency?

Primary Immune Deficiency (PI) causes children and adults to have infections that come back frequently or are unusually hard to cure. One in 500 persons are affected by one of the known PIs.

If you or someone you know is affected by two or more of the following warning signs, speak to a physician about the possible presence of an underlying PI.

1. Two or more new ear infections within 1 year.
2. Two or more serious sinus infections within 1 year, in the absence of an allergy.
3. One pneumonia per year for more than 1 year.
4. Chronic diarrhea with weight loss.
5. Recurrent viral infections (colds, herpes, warts, condyloma).
6. Recurrent need for intravenous antibiotics to clear infections.
7. Recurrent, deep abscesses of the skin or internal organs.
8. Persistent thrush or fungal infection on skin or elsewhere.
10. A family history of PI.

These warning signs were developed by the Jeffrey Modell Foundation Medical Advisory Board. Consultation with Primary Immune Deficiency experts is strongly suggested.

For information or referrals, contact the Jeffrey Modell Foundation at 866-INFO-4-PI or info4PI.org.

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