



Neuro-Immune Dysfunction Syndromes Research Institute

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NEURO-IMMUNE DYSFUNCTION SYNDROMES

Definition:

Neuro-immune dysfunction syndromes (NIDS) are a classification for illnesses or disorders related to problems with the complex interactions between the central nervous system and the immune system.

Number of children affected:

3 million+ children, specifically:

- Likely large majority of the more than 500,000+ diagnosed with autism. Autism has increased from 1 in 10,000 to 1 in 250.*
- Many of the 2 million children or 1 in every 20 people diagnosed with attention deficit disorder (ADD) or attention deficit/hyperactivity disorder (AD/HD).**
- Many of the 500,000+ diagnosed with chronic fatigue syndrome.**

Diseases that are likely NIDS:

Diseases that were originally diagnosed as autism, ADD, AD/HD, pervasive developmental disorder (PDD), chronic fatigue syndrome (CFS) and other related disorders.

Causes of NIDS:

NIDS sufferers are most likely to have a genetic pre-disposition for immune system dysregulation. This "pre-disposed" system can be triggered by intrauterine prenatal or neonatal stress, or by viruses, illnesses or by a combination of other stressors and trauma. Overuse of antibiotics and immunizations are not believed to be causes, but may add further stress and play a role as triggers.

- more -

NIDS Fact Sheet/Add One

NIDS premise:

When the immune system is dysregulated/ dysfunctional, the body can reduce blood flow to the brain, particularly to vital areas of the temporal lobes. When this decreased blood flow disrupts neurological function and development in the critical early years of life, this can cause observable “autistic” symptoms. Areas of the brain affected are those directly related to social skills, auditory processing and language.

Symptoms:

Patients will generally have a combination of cognitive impairment, fatigue, fine and gross motor abnormalities, headaches, inability to concentrate, inappropriate behaviors, irritability, lack of focus, language delays, “low grade” fevers, bowel disturbances, chronic congestion or recurrent ear infections, multiple chemical and food sensitivities, multiple rashes, obsessive compulsive disorders, photo-sensitivity, poor socialization skills, poor eye-contact or poor muscle tone.

Diagnosis:

Blood work and NeuroSpect analyses can be used to diagnose NIDS. NeuroSpect brain imaging is a scan that measures blood flow to the brain and provides a very accurate diagnostic tool, showing areas of lower perfusion in the temporal lobes corresponding to decreased function, specifically areas of auditory processing, speech, social skills, etc.

Treatment:

Many of the children with NIDS can be clinically treated using currently approved agents and diet modification.

Most promising treatment:

If used properly, new agents called immune modulators, currently in the developmental pipeline, can potentially restore immune systems to normalcy and reduce dependence on other combinations of medicines.

Clinical trials:

Immune modulators are NOT currently slated for medical research in children, especially in relation to NIDS conditions, which are still being thought of as developmental delays or disorders. The Neuro-Immune Dysfunction Syndromes Research Institute is ready to begin trials as soon as funding is obtained.

More information:

www.nids.net or www.neuroimmunedr.com

*Source: National Institutes of Health

**Source: Centers for Disease Control