The Facts About

Stevens-Johnson Syndrome (SJS/TEN)

What is SJS?





SJS stands for Stevens-Johnson Syndrome. SJS is an allergic reaction to medicine. Like a knight in shining armor, our immune system stands guard to protect us against infections and viruses. It helps fight off any invaders that might make us sick. When a person has Stevens-Johnson Syndrome, their immune system, for some reason, makes a mistake and turns on itself like a fire-breathing dragon causing blisters like a burn. Our immune system is unable to stop this reaction.

Who can get SJS?



Anyone can get SJS. No matter how old they are or what they look like, or where they live. There have been a lot of people who have gotten SJS. More girls and women have gotten SJS than boys and men.

Treatment



SJS patients feel very sick, and they stay in the hospital until they are well enough to go back home. They are wrapped in bandages like a mummy and given special formula in a feeding tube. Sometimes they need help breathing, so they have to use a machine to help them breathe better.

What are the signs of SJS?

- · Rash, blisters, or red splotches on skin
- Long lasting fever
- · Blisters in mouth, eyes, ears, or nose
- · Swelling of eyelids
- Red eves
- · Feeling like you have the Flu
- · Being on a new medicine



Side Effects

- · Alopecia loss of hair
- Asthma trouble breathing
- Blindness unable to see anything but light and color
- · Cough that never goes away
- Photophobia when light hurts a persons eyes
- Dry eyes
- · Tearing because of dry eyes
- · Blurry vision
- Hearing loss



Who are we?

SJS Kids Support is part of the Stevens-Johnson Syndrome Foundation. It was created to teach children and their families about SJS in a way that kids understand. It was also created to help families understand that they are not alone.

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