



# Juvenile Idiopathic Arthritis

By Lorelei

# What is Arthritis?

Arthritis is an auto-immune disease caused by white blood cells attacking your body.



## What causes Juvenile Arthritis?

Researchers don't really have an answer. Some believe it's from genetic tendencies or from your immune system acting incorrectly because of things like stress or an infection. Some also think that if you are a female with a family history of arthritis it can also be caused.

# Rheumatoid vs. Idiopathic

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## RHEUMITIOD

Any diasease marked by inflammation in the joints, muscles or firbrous tissue

## IDIOPATHIC

relating to or denoting any disease or condition which arises spontaneously or for which the cause is unknown



# Symptoms

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- Swelling
- Redness
- High fevers
- Slower growth rate
- Some joints grow faster than others
- Stiffness
- Joint pain

# How it's diagnosed

- Physical exams
- Monitoring symptoms
- Imaging tests
- Blood tests
- Family history



# Treatments

- NSAIDS
- DMARDS
- Corticosteroids
- Biologic Agents
- Physical therapy



# Types of JIA

## **Oligoarticular (aka Pauciarticular) JIA**

- Only affects 5 or less joints usually wrist or knees
- 50% of people with JIA have this
- Could follow into adulthood unless they were diagnosed under the age of 7

## **Polyarticular JIA**

- Begins at any age and affects 5 or more joints

## **Systemic Onset JIA**

- Least common form only effects 10%
- Can cause high fevers and a rash
- Can do irreversible damage to joints and organs



# Other issues

- **Uvietis**
- Inflammation of the center part of eye
- Symptoms include blurry vision, and redness
- If gone untreated it can cause blindness
- **Iritis**
- Similar to uvietis except it affects the iris and section in front of cornea
- **Inflammation can effect the membranes around the side of her heart**



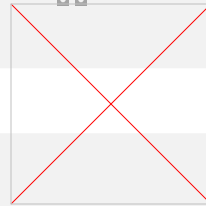
# Interesting facts



JIA is more common than childhood diabetes and autism



You can have multiple remissions



You can't tell if someone has arthritis and most kids can do every thing other kids can



It doesn't shorten or life and is almost always not life threatening

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