

10 warning signs of Primary Immunodeficiency

Primary Immunodeficiency (PID) causes children and adults to have infections that come back frequently or are unusually hard to cure. Two or more of these warning signs could indicate the presence of an underlying PID. If you or your child have any of these symptoms, it's important to talk with your doctor. He or she might refer you to a specialist, such as an immunologist.

- Four or more new ear infections within 1 year
- Two or more new sinus infections within 1 year
- Two or more months on at least two antibiotics with little effect
- Two or more pneumonias within 3 years
- Failure of a baby or child to gain weight or grow normally (failure to thrive)*
- Need for intravenous antibiotics to clear infections.
- Persistent thrush or fungal infection (more than six months) on the skin or elsewhere
- Frequent deep skin or organ abscesses
- Two or more deep-seated infections, including septicaemia (blood poisoning), within three years.
- A family history of a PID.

*There are many reasons for failing to thrive and PIDs are a rare but important cause.