



GAUCHER
connection

A Lifeline for Patients
Living with Gaucher Disease



November 2009

Welcome to Gaucher Connection eNews

Hello!

Thank you for reading Gaucher Connection eNews, the monthly newsletter designed to help keep you up-to-date and on track with Gaucher disease treatment and management.

Staying Aware of Symptoms

Nothing's better than feeling healthy enough not to worry about Gaucher disease. But it's important to stay aware of signs that might need to be checked by a health care provider. This is especially true during this temporary period of ^{Pr}Cerezyme[®] supply shortage.

Personalizing Therapy

Your body changes over time—and for many people, so does their Gaucher disease. It may start to progress faster or slower or affect different parts of the body than before. That's why to keep you healthy and symptom-free, your treatment plan must stay personalized to your current status.

If your symptoms start to resurface, you may need to reassess your current plan. Only your doctor can decide what's necessary. But it's your responsibility to keep him or her informed of any changes to your health. Remember, treating symptoms early is important for helping prevent them from becoming more serious.

Knowing the Signs

You and your family already know the most common symptoms of Gaucher disease: anemia, enlarged spleen and/or liver, bone disease. So just keep in mind how they may affect a person's body:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Feeling more tired than usual 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Loss of appetite
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Developing bruises easily 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pain in bones or joints

If your loved one has been healthy and symptom-free for awhile, it can be easy for everyone to forget what their Gaucher can do. You might think your child is just being a picky eater. Your husband may dismiss his aches and pains as just the results of a hard workout. But only their doctor can determine for sure what's behind those symptoms. So you and your family should be alert to these signs and make a habit of notifying health care providers of any changes.

Take Action

Don't hesitate to call health care providers any time you or your family has concerns about health changes, even if the next doctor appointment is months away. Tracking symptoms can help someone with Gaucher stay aware of changes in their body and health, and document any issues they want to remember to discuss.

For more details on the most common symptoms of Gaucher disease, visit the Gaucher Connection website.

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Patient spotlight: Elizabeth

- 23-year-old schoolteacher
- Living with Gaucher
- Diagnosed in high school
- Started ^{Pr}Cerezyme[®] right after diagnosis
- Concerned about not receiving her bi-weekly infusions
- Reassured that she is connected



Read Elizabeth's story about believing that treatment can help.
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Patient Stories are examples based on aggregate medical data. The characters represented are not actual Gaucher patients. Their stories are inspired by those of real Gaucher patients.

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