



Creating awareness of all immunodeficiencies, supporting and advocating for improved outcomes for patients, carers and families.

idfa.org.au



Our Vision

A future where all immunodeficiencies are diagnosed and treatment commenced early, enabling those impacted to lead productive and fulfilling lives.

Our Purpose

Creating awareness of all immunodeficiencies, supporting and advocating for improved outcomes for patients, carers and families.

Why Join IDFA?

- Access to resources and publications
- Library of webinars available
- Learn about individual immunodeficiency journeys
- Professional development for HCPs

IDFA membership is free. To join, scan the QR code, or go to: idfa.org.au/become-a-member



The IDFA Story

IDFA was formed in 2005 with the support of the Immune Deficiencies Foundation New Zealand (IDFNZ) and the Kids Foundation to be a collective voice for those living with immunodeficiencies, offering education, advocacy, and community to its members.

What is an Immunodeficiency?

A common feature of many immunodeficiencies is a loss of antibodies (or immunoglobulins) or failure of antibody function. The decrease in antibodies cause the immune response to be deficient or absent, resulting in increased susceptibility to infection.

Is it Primary or Secondary?

There are primary and secondary immunodeficiencies. Treatment and support for both are similar.

- **Primary immunodeficiencies** are disorders where the immune system is weakened or absent from genetic inborn errors. There have been up to 450 different errors classified.
- **Secondary immunodeficiencies** occur when the immune system is weakened as a result of treatment for an illness (e.g. chemotherapy), medications, or CAR-T cell therapy.



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Warning Signs for Primary Immunodeficiency

Four or more ear
infections within
one year

Failure of an infant
to gain weight or
grow normally

Two or more deep-
seated infections
including septicemia

Persistent thrush in
mouth or fungal
infection on skin

Two or more
pneumonias within
one year

Two or more serious
sinus infections in
one year

Need for intravenous
antibiotics to clear
infections

Recurrent, deep
skin or organ
abscesses

Two or more
months on antibiotics
with little effect

Family history
of primary
immunodeficiency



Awareness and Education

We offer a range of informative resources, host regular webinars and run various campaigns to increase awareness and education for Australians living with immunodeficiency.



Driving Change

We advocate and support research into a range of issues significant to patients with primary and secondary immunodeficiencies.



Building Community

From member meetups to National Conferences, we bring our members together. There is a suite of community events and support initiatives available for Australians living with immunodeficiency.



IDFA is a national not-for-profit and leading peak body that offers education, advocacy and community for Australians living with an immunodeficiency.

With the support of our medical advisory panel and through national and international relationships, IDFA is a respected organisation within the medical and patient community.

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