

WARM AUTOMIMMUNE HEMOLYTIC ANEMIA

WHAT IS WARM AUTOIMMUNE HEMOLYTIC ANEMIA?

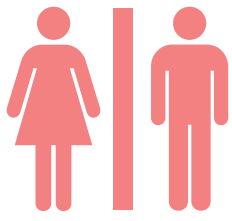
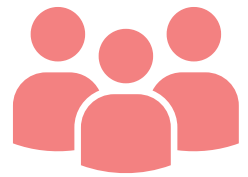
Warm autoimmune hemolytic anemia (wAIHA) is a rare (non-hereditary) autoimmune disorder characterised by destruction of red blood cells (hemolysis) resulting in anemia. The individual's own immune system creates antibodies (typically immunoglobulin G, also known as IgG) that destroys the healthy red blood cells. wAIHA is distinct from other types of AIHA in that, as the 'warm' suggests, the antibodies in wAIHA are most destructive at a body temperature of between 36.5-37.5 degrees Celsius (97.7-99.5 degrees Fahrenheit).¹

1:8,000

LIVE WITH WAIHA

1-3:100k²

NEW DIAGNOSES YEARLY



MEN AND WOMEN ARE
EQUALLY AFFECTED

1:1

53

THERE IS HIGHER
PREVALENCE IN ADULTS
WITH THE AVERAGE AGE
OF ONSET CIRCA 53
(TYPICALLY BETWEEN 50-
70 YEARS OF AGE)



FATIGUE AND SHORTNESS
OF BREATH ARE AMONG
THE MOST CHALLENGING
SYMPTOMS³

UNDERSTANDING THE IMPACT OF WAIHA

SYMPTOMS

Symptoms vary across individuals and their impact on quality of life can be greatly different. These may include:

- fatigue
- dyspnea (shortness of breath)
- discoloured urine (typically dark brown/red)
- jaundice
- elevated heart rate and/or palpitations
- dizziness, chest pain and loss of consciousness in severe cases
- paleness of the skin (pallor)
- splenomegaly (enlarged spleen)

QUALITY OF LIFE

In addition to the challenging physical symptoms, wAIHA may also impact individuals in the following ways:

- feelings of **isolation** and **loneliness**
- **stress** and **anxiety** caused by living with a high degree of uncertainty
- everyday tasks can be difficult creating **loss of independence**
- **financial burden** due to loss of earnings

There are two classifications of wAIHA - **primary** and **secondary**

PRIMARY idiopathic, spontaneous development of the disease with no previous underlying condition

SECONDARY may be linked to many other disorders which can include rheumatologic conditions along with certain cancers (such as lymphoma)

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Read in full, here:

rarerevolutionmagazine.com/waiha

References

1, 2, 4. <https://waihawarriors.org>

3. wAIHA Warriors patient survey 2022