



Need to talk? Call us **0845 2412173** Monday to Friday  
9am to 5pm



Supporting those affected by  
Inherited Metabolic Disorders

# Glucose-6-Phosphate Dehydrogenase Deficiency

In this disorder there is a deficiency of the enzyme glucose-6-phosphate dehydrogenase. This enzyme is required to form glutathione, an antioxidant that is needed to protect the red cell. Red blood cells transport oxygen around the body using the haemoglobin. If there are insufficient levels of the antioxidant glutathione then there is the premature destruction of red cells. This process of destruction is stimulated when individuals are exposed to certain medications, chemicals, viruses, bacterial infections and the pollen and food products of fava beans (broad beans). G6PD gives a resistance to developing malaria.

## Synonyms

Alternative names for this condition are:

- Favism
- G6PD Deficiency

Further information about this condition is available from Climb.



## Disclaimer

[Please read our disclaimer and information on data protection.](#)

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