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

Climb™

Supporting those affected by Inherited Metabolic Disorders

Acute Hepatic Porphyria

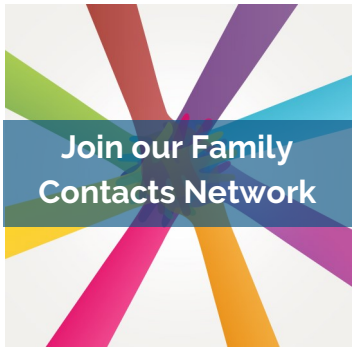
The Porphyrias are a group of disorders that are caused by a problem in the production of Haem resulting in an accumulation of either porphyrins, or the chemicals used to make them. Porphyrins are needed to enable Haemoglobin to work properly. This is a vital protein found in red blood cells that carries oxygen from the lungs to the tissues in the body and returns with carbon dioxide back to the lungs. It also gives blood its red colour when it contains oxygen. Porphyrins combine with iron to produce Haem (a component of Haemoglobin) which also helps to form many other proteins. It is found in all body tissues, mainly in red blood cells, bone marrow and in the liver. There are 8 different types of Porphyria which are classified as being either acute or cutaneous. The acute porphyrias are characterised by a build up of the chemicals used to make porphyrins. This affects the nervous system leading to severe episodes of physical pain and neurological problems. Because the chemicals arise from and accumulate in the liver the term Acute Hepatic Porphyrias is often used and encompasses the following four diseases:

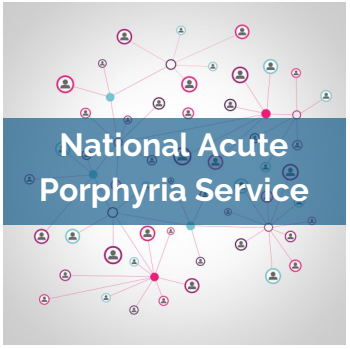
- Acute Intermittent Porphyria (the most common)
- Variegate Porphyria
- Hereditary Coproporphyria
- Aminolevulinic acid dehydratase deficiency (extremely rare).

Further information about this condition is available from Climb.

Disclaimer

Please read our disclaimer and information on data protection.





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