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

Climb™

Supporting those affected by Inherited Metabolic Disorders

MPS IVA

Morquio Disease is a genetic disease in which a defect in the genes means it is unable to break down a certain chemical. Morquio Disease belongs to a group of disorders known as the Mucopolysaccharidoses or MPS Disorders. In this group of disorders the chemicals are mucopolysaccharides, a group of sugar molecules. In Morquio Disease the chemical that can not be broken down is known as keratan sulphate. This is an important chemical in the connective tissue. The body continuously breaks down chemicals and proteins to ensure that the tissues and joints are in kept in good working order. In this disorder the enzyme or protein that is supposed to break down keratan sulphate does not work properly. As a result keratan sulphate builds up within the cells and tissues in the body.

The age of presentation, the symptoms and the severity vary greatly in this disorder. Often those affected present after the first year or two of life. The bones and joints are most commonly affected early on in this disorder. The child may is likely to have growth problems and be of short stature. This and other joint and skeletal abnormalities often lead to diagnosis within the first 5 years of life. Unlike other types of MPS there are no neurological symptoms associated with Morquio Disease.

Synonyms

Alternative names for this condition are:

- Morquio Disease
- Mucopolysaccharidosis Type 4a
- MPS IVa

Further information about this condition is available from Climb.

Disclaimer

Please read our disclaimer and information on data protection.

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