

A NEW DAY PEDIATRIC PSYCHOLOGY

Healing the hurt. Educating the mind. Inspiring the soul.



MASTOCYTOSIS: IT IS POSSIBLE TO OVERCOME



BY ASHLEY MOHESKY
FEATURED WRITER

Mastocytosis is a condition in which mast cells accumulate in the skin, bone marrow, spleen, liver, and small intestine. The symptoms of mastocytosis vary based on which parts of the body are affected. There are two types of mastocytosis: Cutaneous and Systemic. Cutaneous mastocytosis mainly affects the skin and is diagnosed in children and adults. This type of mastocytosis can sometimes include lesions on different parts of the body, and there can be little to no symptoms until systemic mastocytosis begins to occur. Systemic mastocytosis is found in multiple organs and is diagnosed in adulthood. Treatment is based on each individual.

The cause for this disorder is the mutation of the KIT gene. Although this gene creates a protein that controls cellular processes such as cell growth and division, there are some mutations of the KIT gene that can cause an overproduction of mast cells. Depending on the severity of mastocytosis, people may have to take multiple medications in order to maintain a healthy quality of life. In some cases, mastocytosis can cause anaphylaxis due to the disorder causing a disruption in the functioning of the respiratory system.



A New Day Pediatric Psychology, PLLC falls under the vision of Dr. Ann-Louise T. Lockhart, Pediatric Psychologist and Board Certified in Child and Adolescent Psychology.

A New Day specializes in evidence-based behavioral health treatment, interventions, and psychological evaluations for children, adolescents, and adults with known or suspected behavioral health and/or medical conditions affecting all aspects of development and functioning.

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When someone receives a diagnosis of mastocytosis, they will often feel scared of the unknown because of the types of symptoms that it may bring. However, it is important to maintain a positive mindset throughout the course of treatment. Speaking with a mental health professional about mastocytosis and the fears that may surface can alleviate the negative thoughts that can occur. For children with mastocytosis, or have a family member with the condition, it will often times bring up confusion and worry. Many people believe that they need to keep their children out of the treatment process because they don't understand what is going on. In reality, children are able to comprehend more than what adults think they are capable of. Involving kids with the diagnosis and outcome can help them to better understand what is happening around them. Mastocytosis can be difficult to handle but with the right medications and attitude it does not have to prevent one from living their life.

Did you know?

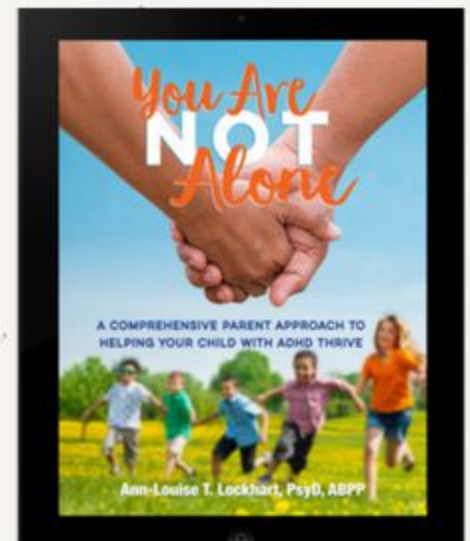
Bad News: No cure and little known about it by the majority of physicians. No known treatment for the disease, only for the symptoms.

Good News: 95% of kids will outgrow it by the time they are a teen. It's not hereditary, non-contagious and spots go away when the disease does.

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STAY TUNED

This newsletter is issued every first and third week of each month.

The purpose of this newsletter is to educate, inspire, and bring healing and awareness by discussing a variety of behavioral health and medical conditions.


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