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ON BEHALF OF

CHARITY UK

www.menkesfoundationuk.com

Menkes Foundation UK Registered Charity Number 1130455

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Menkes disease is a fatal illness in which the intestines are unable to absorb copper, depriving the brain and other tissues of this essential mineral.

Who gets it?

✦ Male infants are affected by the disorder and Females are carriers of the mutated gene.

What are the symptoms?

- ✦ Distinctive symptoms begin at 2-3 months of age.
- ✦ Failure to meet developmental milestones , weak and "floppy" muscles
- ✦ Kinky hair Pudgy, rosy cheeks, Irritability & feeding difficulties
- ✦ Pale, pigmented skin colour , sagging facial muscles & Respiratory difficulties
- ✦ Frequent urinary tract infections (UTIs) and weak and/or brittle bones

What is the prognosis?

The prognosis for individuals with Menkes is poor; death usually occurs within the first decade of life.

Can Menkes be treated?

To date there is no cure for Menkes syndrome other than treating the symptoms with palliative care. Copper replacements can be initiated - subcutaneously (under the skin), or intramuscularly (in the muscle), or intravenously (in the vein) with mixed results. The earlier Treatment is given in the course of the disease, the more positive the results.

Our objectives of the Menkes Foundation UK are to:

- ♦ To raise the awareness of Menkes
- ♦ To promote understanding of Menkes
- ♦ To organise events and activities to generate income for the Charity
- ♦ To seek to improve the quality of life and independence of such beneficiaries

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Gift Aid increases the value of donations to charities. Basic rate tax is 20 per cent, so this means that if you give £10 using Gift Aid, it's worth £12.50 to the charity. In order for the Charity to claim gift aid please tick the end box and complete the above ; we need your name, house name / number and postcode as a minimum.