

# The First Step to Diagnosing WHIM Syndrome Is Suspecting It

WHIM syndrome is a rare, combined primary immunodeficiency and a chronic neutropenic disorder named for the manifestations of<sup>1</sup>:

**W**arts | **H**ypogammaglobulinemia | **I**nfections | **M**yelokathexis

**Less than 1 in 4 patients** with WHIM syndrome present with all 4 manifestations. The onset, severity, duration, and frequency of WHIM syndrome symptoms and potential resulting complications can be variable.<sup>1</sup>

## Prevalence of Manifestations, Laboratory Findings, and Associated Complications<sup>1-3</sup>

### Classic WHIM Presentation\*

**Warts 40%**

**Hypogammaglobulinemia 65%**

**Infections 92%**

**Myelokathexis<sup>†</sup> ~100%**

WHIM syndrome is heterogeneous, and only ~23% of patients will typically present with the full tetrad of key manifestations.<sup>1</sup>

### Frequent Laboratory Findings\*

**Neutropenia 98%**

**Lymphopenia 88%**

**Monocytopenia**

Exact prevalence unknown

WHIM syndrome should be suspected in any case of chronic neutropenia with lymphopenia and/or monocytopenia.<sup>3</sup>

### Multisystemic Complications\*

**Sepsis**

**13%**

Resulting from bacterial meningitis and bacteremia

**End-organ damage**

**20%**

Bronchiectasis and hearing loss

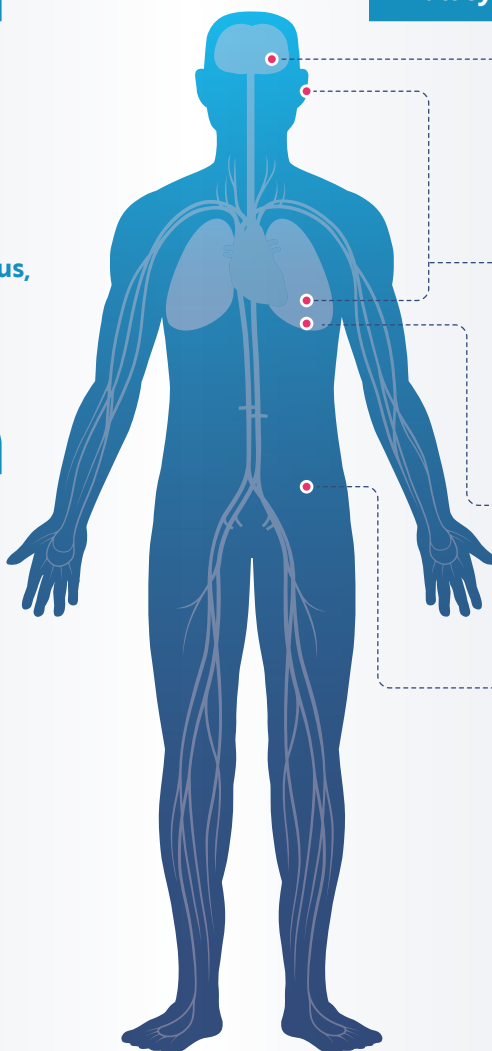
**Pneumonia**

**63%**

**Cancer<sup>‡</sup>**

**23%**

Overall risk by age 40, including HPV- and EBV-associated malignancies



\*Based on analysis of n=66 patients, as described in Geier et al.

<sup>†</sup>Includes leukopenia in cases where bone marrow biopsy was not performed.

<sup>‡</sup>Based on analysis of n=155 patients, as described in Moulin et al. Variable rates of cancer risk and prevalence in patients with WHIM are reported in the literature.



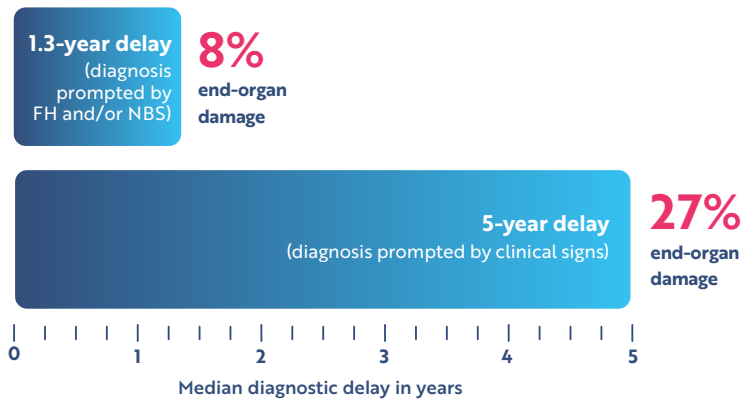
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WHAT IF IT'S  
WHIM?

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# Early Diagnosis of WHIM Syndrome Is Critical

## Incidence of End-Organ Damage Based on Diagnostic Delay<sup>#,1</sup>



FH=family history. NBS=newborn screening.

<sup>#</sup>Diagnostic delay defined as the time from first date of recorded neutropenia to final molecular diagnosis of WHIM syndrome.

- In a retrospective analysis, earlier diagnosis and treatment resulted in fewer hospitalizations and lower incidence of end-organ damage, including bronchiectasis and hearing loss.<sup>1</sup>
- An early, definitive WHIM diagnosis may help inform and guide patient management, improve outcomes, and reduce the risk of potential long-term complications.<sup>1,4</sup>

## WHIM Syndrome 3-Point Diagnosis

Clinical evaluation, bone marrow biopsy and/or genetic testing can help inform a WHIM syndrome diagnosis<sup>1</sup>



### Clinical Presentation

Phenotype, family history, and laboratory findings

Accurate  
Diagnosis of  
WHIM



± Bone Marrow Biopsy  
To detect  
myelokathexis



± Genetic Testing  
Potential CXCR4 pathogenic  
or other genetic variants

### Phenotype and Patient/Family History<sup>1,4,5</sup>

#### Frequent Infections

- Recurrent sinopulmonary and respiratory tract infections
- History of frequent childhood ear infections
- Frequent infections of the skin and underlying tissue

#### Recalcitrant Warts

- Consistent presence of HPV warts
- Anogenital warts
- Resistance to therapy

### Laboratory Findings<sup>1,3,6</sup>

#### Neutropenia

- ANC  $\leq 1000$  cells/ $\mu$ L (elevated during infection but low with recovery)

#### Lymphopenia

- ALC  $< 1500$  cells/ $\mu$ L (age appropriate)

#### Monocytopenia

- AMC  $< 200$  cells/ $\mu$ L (adults)

#### Hypogammaglobulinemia

- Low circulating levels of IgG, IgA, and/or IgM

**References:** 1. Geier CB, Ellison M, Cruz R, et al. Disease progression of WHIM syndrome in an international cohort of 66 pediatric and adult patients. *J Clin Immunol.* 2022;42(8):1748-1765. doi:10.1007/s10875-022-01312-7 2. Moulin C, Beaupain B, Suarez F, et al. CXCR4 WHIM syndrome is a cancer predisposition condition for virus-induced malignancies. *Br J Haematol.* 2024;204(4):1383-1392. doi:10.1111/bjh.19373 3. Badolato R, Donadieu J; WHIM Research Group. How I treat warts, hypogammaglobulinemia, infections, and myelokathexis syndrome. *Blood.* 2017;130(23):2491-2498. doi:10.1182/blood-2017-02-708552 4. Kawai T, Malech HL. WHIM syndrome: congenital immune deficiency disease. *Curr Opin Hematol.* 2009;16(1):20-26. doi:10.1097/MOH.0b013e32831ac557 5. Heusinkveld LE, Majumdar S, Gao JL, McDermott DH, Murphy PM. WHIM syndrome: from pathogenesis towards personalized medicine and cure. *J Clin Immunol.* 2019;39(6):532-556. doi:10.1007/s10875-019-00665-w 6. Beaussant Cohen S, Fenneteau O, Plouvier E, et al. Description and outcome of a cohort of 8 patients with WHIM syndrome from the French Severe Chronic Neutropenia Registry. *Orphanet J Rare Dis.* 2012;7:71. doi:10.1186/1750-1172-7-71

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