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Tumour Necrosis Factor Receptor Associated Periodic Syndrome (TRAPS) or Familial Hibernian Fever

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3. EVERYDAY LIFE

3.1 How might the disease affect the child and the family's daily life?

Frequent and long-lasting attacks disrupt normal family life and may interfere with a parent's or patient's job. There is often considerable delay before the correct diagnosis is made, which may give rise to parental anxiety and sometimes to unnecessary medical procedures.

3.2 What about school?

Frequent attacks cause problems with school attendance. With effective treatment, school absence becomes less frequent. Teachers should be informed about the disease and what to do in the event that an attack starts at school.

3.3 What about sports?

There is no restriction to sports. However, frequent absence from matches and training sessions may hamper participation in competitive team sports.

3.4 What about diet?

There is no specific diet.

3.5 Can climate influence the course of the disease?

No, it cannot.

3.6 Can the child be vaccinated?

Yes, the child can be and should be vaccinated, even though this may provoke fever attacks. In particular, if your child is treated with corticosteroids or biologic agents, vaccinations are essential to protect against possible infections.

3.7 What about sexual life, pregnancy, birth control?

Patients with TRAPS can enjoy normal sexual activity and have children of their own. However, they should be aware that there is a 50% probability that their child is affected. Genetic counselling should be offered to discuss this aspect with children and families.