

DR. LINDA'S VASCULAR BIRTHMARK FACT SHEET



10 FACTS ABOUT PHACE SYNDROME

- 1. PHACE is an acronym for a specific vascular birthmark syndrome. P = Posterior Fossa, H = Hemangioma, A = Arterial defect, C = Cardiac problems and E = Eye problems.
- 2. Infants with a hemangioma in the “beard area” or facial area are suspicious for PHACE Syndrome and should be checked.
- 3. You only need the H (Hemangioma) and one other issue to qualify as PHACE Syndrome.
- 4. Affected infants rarely suffer from all of the associated conditions.
- 5. PHACE Syndrome is often confused with SWS (port wine stain and associated issues). However, PHACE Syndrome involves an Infantile Hemangioma, and SWS involves a PWS. Sometimes they are hard to differentiate at birth. Differentiation becomes easier in the first and second month of life.
- 6. Structural vascular anomalies of the brain are the most common associated condition, along with the hemangioma. They are also the most worrisome.
- 7. In addition to brain involvement, aortic anomalies have also been detected with some PHACE Syndrome cases.
- 8. Nearly 90% of all diagnosed PHACE Syndrome cases are girls.
- 9. There has been no clinical evidence that these run in a family.
- 10. PHACE Syndrome requires a thorough examination and knowledge from a medical team that understands the complexity of this syndrome. Because the hemangioma itself is rarely present at birth (usually appears a week or two later) data on newborns with PHACE Syndrome is virtually non-existent.



15 MAY
INTERNATIONAL
DAY OF AWARENESS
FOR VASCULAR BIRTHMARKS

www.birthmark.org/awareness

VASCULAR BIRTHMARKS FOUNDATION

www.BIRTHMARK.org