

Tourette's Syndrome

The Facts

- Tourette's Syndrome is one of a number of tic disorders
- It is characterised by many varied frequently changing tics.
- It is a neurobiological disorder that is genetically inherited
- It is more commonly found in males

Useful Information

Tourette's Syndrome (UK)
Association,
PO Box 26149
Dunfermline
KY12 9WT

Useful Website

www.tourettesyndrome.co.uk

For further information on this issue please contact:

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GENERAL INFORMATION LEAFLET

Basic Facts for Leaders

Tourette's Syndrome



Dis
a
Bility

NORTHERN IRELAND

General Features

WHAT IS A TIC?

A tic is an involuntary rapid or sudden movement or sudden movement or sound that is repeated over and over again.

4 Main Types of Tics:

COPROLALIA -
repetition of obscene words

COPROPRAXIA -
repetition of obscene gestures

ECHOLALIA -
repeating what they have heard

ECHOPRAXIA -
imitating the actions you saw

How Can We Help?

- Talk to the parents (and child if appropriate)
- Prevent teasing at all costs
- Allow extra time to prevent stress
- Provide time-out for when tics become disruptive
- Have a discrete sign so that the individual can leave to release tics in private
- Allow to sit at the back to prevent staring
- If a loud vocal tic - allow to miss large group, quiet times such as opening / closing
- If a touching tic - allow for a buffer zone but be careful not to isolate
- **DO NOT** punish a tic



Types of Tourette's Syndrome

1. Pure Tourette's Syndrome - often goes undiagnosed and is not associated with other conditions.
2. Full blown TS - will include the extremes such as coprolalia and/or copropraxia
3. TS Plus - Where associated conditions are present.

Pure TS often causes no behavioural or educational problems, but it is the associated disorders that lead to the difficulties (refer to other leaflets)

- Attention Deficit Disorder (ADHD)
- Obsessive Compulsive Disorder (OCD)
- Oppositional Defiant Disorder (ODD)
- Outbursts of Aggression
- Fine Motor control problems
- Organisational problems
- Reading Comprehension difficulties