

SJOGREN'S SYNDROME

Please read this information sheet. If you have any questions, particularly about the treatment or potential side-effects, please ask Professor.

- This is an uncommon condition
- The cause is unknown but it is immunological and possibly viral
- It is not known to be infectious
- It is not usually inherited
- Common features are dry mouth and dry eyes
- Joint and other problems *may* be associated
- X-rays, blood tests and biopsy may well be required
- Symptoms can usually be controlled but not cured with simple drugs
- Common complications are mouth soreness, tooth decay and salivary swelling
- *Rare complication, in a very few patients* is a tumour.
- You should get yourself checked regularly if advised by the specialist
- Useful websites <http://www.sjsworld.org/>
<http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/bssassociation>
<http://www.nidcr.nih.gov/HealthInformation/OralHealthInformationIndex/SjogrensSyndrome.htm>
- Advice is available from
British Sjogren's Syndrome Association
Unit 1, Manor Workshops,
Nailsea Wall Lane
West End, Nailsea
Bristol BS19 2DD

A patient has the right under common law to give or withhold consent to medical examination of treatment. This is one of the basic principles of health care. Patients are entitled to receive sufficient information in a way they can understand about the proposed treatments, the possible alternatives and any substantial risk or risks which may be special in kind or magnitude or special to the patient, so that they can make a balanced judgement. (UK Health Dept. 19.2.99. HSC 1999/031)

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