# **QUICK FACTS**



# PEAK AGE 50-70 years old

People of any age can have wAIHA, with the peak age being 50 – 70 years old

#### **BIOLOGY**

## No familial hereditary component

Women have the same likelihood as men to develop wAIHA

# PREVALENCE **17/100,000**

17 individuals out of every 100,000 have wAIHA

# **DIAGNOSES** 1-3/100,000

1 to 3 individuals out of every 100,000 are diagnosed with wAIHA every year

# **GENDER**

1:1

Women have the same likelihood as men to develop wAIHA

#### **CURRENT TREATMENTS**

FIRST LINE: Corticosteroids SECOND LINE: Immunosuppressive agents, Rituximab THIRD LINE: Splenectomy

### **CLINICAL TRIALS**

Currently, there are multiple studies testing new therapies for wAIHA

If you'd like to learn more, go to wAIHAwarriors.org

# **CONNECT WITH US on**



Get the latest news and updates from wAIHA Warriors on our Facebook page.

Connect with other wAIHA patients and care partners in our confidential Facebook group.



Also, find us on



## **OUR SPONSORS & PARTNERS**



























A Dynamic Community for Warm Autoimmune Hemolytic Anemia Patients and Care Partners



wAIHAwarriors.org

# WHAT IS WAIHA?



Warm Autoimmune Hemolytic Anemia (wAIHA) is a clinical form of AIHA, in which the immune system creates antibodies (typically IgG) that destroy healthy red blood cells. wAIHA is unique as antibodies are most destructive at body temperatures between 36.5–37.5°C (97.7–99.5°F).

wAIHA can be classified as idiopathic (primary) or secondary, determining the approach of treatment. Current treatment options include corticosteroids, immunosuppressants, and splenectomy.

## **SYMPTOMS**



Symptoms generally develop from several weeks to several months, though they may occasionally develop over a few days.

Symptoms vary, depending on onset rate, healthy red blood count destruction rate, and if there is any underlying disorder.

#### **COMMON SYMPTOMS**

Abnormal paleness of the skin (pallor)
Dizziness
Muscle weakness and Fatigue
Palpitations
Shortness of breath (exertional dyspnea)

Mild splenomegaly

#### **RARER SYMPTOMS**

Dark urine (hemolysis) Yellowing of skin and eyes (jaundice)

#### **SEVERE SYMPTOMS**

Loss of consciousness (syncope) Chest pain (angina) Abnormally rapid heartbeats (tachycardia) Heart failure

# NEW TREATMENT OPTIONS



#### **CURRENT CLINICAL TRIALS**

Clinical trials are the primary means to learn if a new treatment is safe, more effective, and/or has less harmful side effects than standard or current treatments. wAIHA Warriors regularly partners with researchers and manufacturers on their studies and clinical trials.

To learn more about current clinical trials, go to ClinicalTrials.gov and search for wAIHA.



#### **BECOME A WAIHA WARRIOR**

The wAIHA Warriors are a 501(c)(3) organization with a mission to alleviate suffering and the socioeconomic impact of wAIHA by fostering and facilitating collaboration in education, public awareness, research, and patient engagement in the U.S. and globally.

There are many ways to get involved in our dynamic community: join our newsletter mailing list, engage with our industry and advocacy partners, and plan to attend our next wAIHA Warriors Annual Patient Meeting in May 2025 and our AIHA Awareness Day, a virtual event, always on March 25th.

# SHARE YOUR STORIES



Living with a rare condition can be a lonely experience. Finding a safe space to share your own story can help.

"The recovery process has been challenging, and like a roller coaster ride. My faith, the love and support of my family and friends, as well as sharing my story via social media, has helped me get through one of the most difficult, and scariest times of my life...My hope is others realize they are not alone, either." – Deneé C.

### YOU ARE NOT ALONE

If you are affected by wAIHA – as a current patient or patient in remission, care partner, clinician, or industry partner – YOU are a wAIHA Warrior.

You are part of our effort to share information, resources, and support. Welcome to the Warriors!



Karen Jones, Exec. Director karen@wAIHAwarriors.org