

What is CVID?

Common Variable Immune Deficiency (CVID) is a type of **Primary Immune Deficiency** which comes under the sub heading of **Primary Antibody Deficiency**.

Common

All primary immune deficiencies are a relatively rare group of diseases. However, within this collection of diseases, there is one set of diseases which has the most number of people presenting with it than all other types of Primary Immune Deficiencies. So, out of this rare collection of diseases, it is the most “common”.

Variable

Whilst this class of primary antibody deficiency is the most commonly diagnosed of all primary immune deficiencies, it can also vary both in what part of the immune system is unable to make functioning antibodies and in what effects it has on the people living with it. In other words, it is probably made up of a group of people with slightly different antibody deficiencies, rather than being a class of deficiency in its own right.

Immune Deficiency

This means that the body is unable to maintain a complete immune system. In this context it is a **Primary deficiency** which has been caused by a fault (usually a genetic fault) in the body’s ability to either produce or maintain properly working antibodies.

Common Variable Immune Deficiency (known as CVID) is the most common type of Primary Immune Deficiency (PID), but not everybody with CVID has exactly the same condition.

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