



Our Immune System

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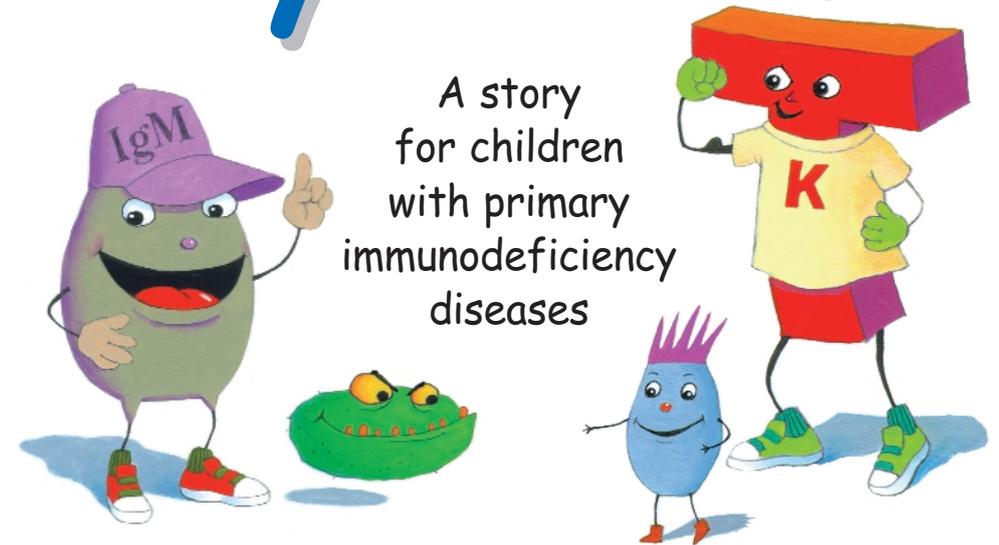
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For more information about Primary Immune Deficiency Disorders and Patient support services, please write to:

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A story
for children
with primary
immunodeficiency
diseases

Written by
Sara LeBien



A note from the author

The purpose of this book is to help young children who are immune deficient to better understand their immune system. What is a “B-cell,” a “T-cell,” an “immunoglobulin” or “IgG”? They hear doctors use these words, but what do they mean?

With cheerful illustrations, *Our Immune System* explains how a normal immune system works and what treatments may be necessary when the system is deficient. In this second edition, a description of a new treatment has been included.

I hope this book will enable these children and their families to explore together the immune system, and that it will help alleviate any confusion or fears they may have.

Sara LeBien

This book contains general medical information which cannot be applied safely to any individual case. Medical knowledge and practice can change rapidly. Therefore, this book should not be used as a substitute for professional medical advice.

SECOND EDITION
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Important Words

This list will help you understand some of the important words in this book.

Antibiotics (*an-ti-bi-ot-ics*) special medicine that can help your body fight germs

Antibodies (*an-ti-bod-ies*) also called immunoglobulins protect our bodies from germs

B-Cells make immunoglobulins

Complement (*com-ple-ment*) a group of proteins that work together, like a team, to fight germs

Germ a tiny living thing that may make you sick

Immunoglobulins (*im-mu-no-glob-u-lins*) also called antibodies or Igs

IVIG immunoglobulin infused into a vein

Intravenous (*in-tra-ven-ous*) into a vein

Phagocyte (*phag-o-cyte*) identifies germs and gets rid of them by eating them

SCIG immunoglobulin infused under the skin

Subcutaneous (*sub-cu-ta-ne-ous*) under the skin

T-Cells identify germs and tell the body how to fight them