Hunter Syndrome



Speech, Language, & Hearing Sciences

Communication Profile

- Hearing loss leads to speech and language delays of 2 years or more (more severe in severe type)
- Individuals with mild type benefit from hearing aid
- Breathing problems and bulky tissue can cause hoarse, deep voices & shallow quick breathing
- Thick lips and tongue can cause problems with articulation
- Severe type may benefit from alternative

Cause & Diagnosis

- *Genetic* disorder that can be identified via genetic testing
- *Mutation* produces lack of an enzyme
- Enzyme causes fluid build-up
- Can lead to several health issues

Physical Characteristics

- Thick lips/tongue
- Short stature
- Protruding forehead and abdomen
- Stiff joints
- Large head

SUBTYPES OF HUNTER SYNDROME

SEVERE (EARLY-ONSET) TYPE	BOTH TYPES	MILD (LATE-ONSET) TYPE
Begins from 2-5 years old	Symptoms increase in intensity over time	Begins in late childhood to early adolescence (age varies, >5)
Significant intellectual disability	Frequent ear infection and fluid cause hearing loss	Little to no intellectual disability
Development plateaus around age 6	Carpal tunnel syndrome or other forms of joint stiffness	Longer life expectancy