



BE RARE AWARE

What is Canavan Disease?

Canavan is a rare, genetic disease passed onto a child when both parents carry the “faulty” gene. (There is a 25% chance with each pregnancy when both parents are carriers.) Canavan affects the brain and how it communicates with the rest of the body. It is a devastating, progressive disease. Currently, there are no treatments. However, there are two gene therapy clinical trials providing hope to families caring for a child with Canavan.

What happens?

Depending on the severity of the disease, some children live only a short time, while other children live a life requiring 24/7 care – and are unable to talk, walk, or gain independence of any kind throughout their lifetime.

What are the symptoms?

Children with Canavan tend to have larger heads than their healthy peers. They do not speak. They do not crawl. They never walk. But they do have tremendous spirit and often an infectious laugh. Try making a silly sound, and you’ll see!

How can you help?

Support families affected with Canavan by making a gift to NTSAD at www.ntsad.org. Share this post and be a voice for the voiceless.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT
CANAVAN DISEASE VISIT
WWW.NTSAD.ORG

