

Our Immune System – 2nd Edition

This storybook, published by the Immune Deficiency Foundation, educates children about primary immunodeficiency diseases through delightful, eye-catching illustrations. The characters explain how the immune system works and describe the treatments for pediatric patients. Children will understand their own bodies and be better prepared to deal with their own primary immunodeficiency.

Download a PDF version of the entire book at www.primaryimmune.org, or order as many copies as you would like by contacting Immune Deficiency Foundation at 800-296-4433 or idf@primaryimmune.org.



BEING A CHILD WITH A CHRONIC DISEASE IS NOT EASY. Having a primary immunodeficiency disease is especially confusing since it is difficult to understand and hardly anyone seems to know anything about it.

IDF BOOK FOR CHILDREN:

“OUR IMMUNE SYSTEM”

An Immune Deficiency Foundation (IDF) volunteer, Sara LeBien, understood the problem. As a mother of a son with a primary immunodeficiency and a primary school teacher, she wanted a story for very small children that wasn't too medical or scary. So, she created a story that children could easily identify with and understand.

The first edition of *Our Immune System* was printed in 1990. This simple story tells of how the immune system works as well as the treatments necessary for children with primary immunodeficiency diseases. Through delightful illustrations, friendly characters in the immune system, B-cells, T-cells, and even phagocytes tell the story. Reviewed by physicians, teachers, nurses, psychologists, and parents, hundreds of thousands of copies have been distributed. In fact, it continues to be the most requested publication from the IDF national office. In demand worldwide, IDF has given permission to have it translated into ten languages.

IgG America and ASD Healthcare Sponsor New Second Edition

However, over the years, it became clear that Our Immune System needed a little updating. Since 1990, new treatment options have been approved, technology has changed and our audience has become more diverse. It was time to revise and expand this simple storybook.

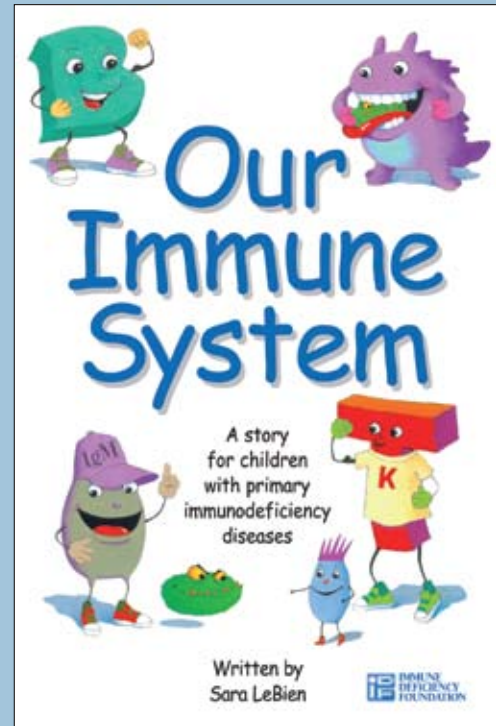
That is when IgG America and ASD Healthcare stepped up and became involved. Recognizing the importance of educating children, they awarded IDF with an unrestricted educational grant to make the second edition of this book possible.

Tamie Joeckel, Vice President, Sales and Marketing, at ASD Healthcare said, "Our Immune System helps demystify the treatments children with primary immunodeficiency face and better prepares them for what to expect. It is done in a fun, entertaining way and we are happy to sponsor the second edition of this wonderful story for all our tiniest patients and their families."

New information has been added, colorful illustrations and diverse characters inhabit the pages. The illustrations aid the reader in understanding how the immune system functions with the help of B-cells, T-cells, phagocytes and complement. It helps children understand their own bodies and what happens to them when they get sick. Our Immune System describes the basic components of the immune system, how it functions, and what happens when children get an infection. Even complicated treatments, like intravenous immunoglobulin infusions (IVIG) or subcutaneous immunoglobulin (SCIG) are simply explained.

Although this publication was originally written for children, it has been used as an educational tool for families, school personnel, healthcare providers and the general public. It is necessary for all those who come into contact with a child with a primary immunodeficiency to understand the disease itself to prevent misconceptions and to understand the necessity of regular treatment and preventive measures.

Our Immune System is available free of charge by contacting **800.296.4433** or **idf@primaryimmune.org**. It is also available on the IDF Web site, **www.primaryimmune.org**.



About The Immune Deficiency Foundation

The Immune Deficiency Foundation, founded in 1980, is the national non-profit patient organization dedicated to improving the diagnosis, treatment and quality of life of persons with primary immunodeficiency diseases through advocacy, education and research.

In the United States, there are approximately 250,000 people diagnosed with primary immunodeficiency disease and thousands more go undetected. These individuals often find it difficult to receive specialized health care, proper diagnosis and treatment. Individuals affected by primary immunodeficiency diseases also experience difficulties financing their health care, finding

educational materials on the disease and locating others with whom to share their experiences. The mission of IDF is to help individuals overcome these difficulties and live a healthy and productive life. The constant presence of IDF assures patients, their families and their medical caretakers that there is a place to turn for help.

To learn more about IDF, visit **www.primaryimmune.org**

