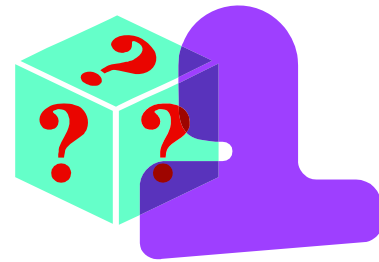


Pulmonary Exacerbations: Information for Patient's & Families



Do You Know That ...
Lung infections (pulmonary exacerbations)
are a main cause of lung damage
in people with CF?

AND...

... fevers, even low grade, for a week or two can be a sign of a lung infection?

... being tired or "just not feeling well" for a week or two can be a sign of a lung infection?

... missing school or work, for any reason, may mean that you are getting sick?

... not eating well or "just not feeling hungry" for a week or two can be a sign of a lung infection?

... losing weight or not gaining weight (if a child) in between clinic visits can be a sign of a lung infection?



... any change in cough (more frequently, "spells" lasting longer, or increasing "harshness") for as little as a week can be a sign of a lung infection?

... any change in mucus coughed up (if it is new, if its more frequent, if there is more of it or if it changes color) for as little as a week can be a sign of a lung infection?

... even a little shortness of breath with any activity (walking, climbing stairs, or exercising) or feeling short of breath when sitting can be a sign of a lung infection?

... new noises made by the lungs (wheezes, crackles, mucus "flopping in the airways") or breathing faster or "heavier" is a sign of a lung infection?

... even small decreases in lung function (as little as ~ 10%) over 3-6 months can be a sign of a lung infection and a need for antibiotics?

... new findings on lung Xrays, even if they are small or minor, may mean that you are getting sick even if you don't feel bad?

... coughing up blood, even if it a small amount in streaks or flecks in the mucus can mean that a lung infection is starting or worsening and may need antibiotics?