



## [Tuberous Sclerosis Information Page](#)

**Tuberous Sclerosis is a genetic disorder that causes benign tumors to grow in all organs of the body; Brain, Kidneys, Heart, Eyes, Lungs and Skin. It can affect the central nervous system causing seizures, and other developmental conditions such as Autism and ADD as well as behavioral problems.**

**Tuberous Sclerosis Complex is estimated that 1 in 6,000 newborns are born everyday with TSC. A newborn can go undiagnosed with TSC in fact many individuals can go for years without having any symptoms, yet some can have very severe symptoms from a young age.**

## [Symptoms and Signs of Tuberous Sclerosis Complex](#)

TSC can affect all organs causing many different signs and symptoms. Signs and symptoms vary depending on which organs are involved. TSC can be different and may vary from person to person causing mild symptoms to severe symptoms. TSC can cause seizures and varying degrees of disability and developmental delays. Many different types of seizures can occur with TSC, Infantile Spasms are seizures that are more common in young children with Tuberous Sclerosis.

*[Kidneys](#) - Kidney problems can occur with TSC cysts and angiomyolipomas occur in many individuals with TSC, usually occurring later on in adolescent. Cysts when first discovered are normally small and cause no serious problems. Some individuals with TSC can develop a large number of cysts causing polycystic kidney disease.*

*[Brain](#) - There are 3 different types of brain abnormalities that can occur within the brain in individuals with TSC. **Cortical Tubers**, these normally form on the surface of the brain, but can also imbed themselves deep into the brain. **Giant-cell astrocytomas**, is a type of tumor that can grow causing serious complications as these tubers can block the flow of fluids to the brain. **Subependymal Nodules** can form in the walls of the ventricles the fluid filled cavities of the brain. A regular MRI should be done to monitor these tubers.*

*[Heart](#) - Cardiac rhabdomyomas sometimes are found in the hearts of children with Tuberous Sclerosis, these may regress with time. However if the tumors are large they should be monitored because they may cause heart failure or arrhythmia. A echocardiogram is recommended for all individuals with TSC.*

*[Skin](#) - There are many different skin abnormalities that may occur in an individual with TSC. Most cause no problems but are normally one of the first indications to a diagnosis. The most common skin abnormalities include: (**Ash leaf Spots**) known as **Hypomelanotic macules**, which are white patches on the skin and they can appear any where on the body. Reddish spots that may look like acne may also appear on the face of an individual with TSC these are called **Facial Angiofibromas**. Areas of thick patches of skin which may have an orange peel look, these normally will appear on the back in early age these are called **Shagreen Patches**.*

**Other tumors and cysts can be found in other parts of the body, including the liver, lung and pancreas. Bones Cysts may occur, rectal polyps, gum fibromas and dental pits can also occur in individuals with Tuberous Sclerosis.**