## How to Live With Riley Day Syndrome

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Riley Day Syndrome is an inherited disorder of the nervous system that begins at birth and grows worse over time. Common among people of Eastern European Jewish ancestry such as Ashkenazi Jews, it affects 1 in every 3,700. Among the most common symptoms of Riley Day Syndrome is the inability to feel pain. Other symptoms include sweating while eating, extended episodes of vomiting, poor coordination, decreased taste, severe scoliosis and skin blotching. Presently there is no cure for Riley Day Syndrome, but it can be managed so that the afflicted can lead reasonably normal lives. Here's how to live with Riley Day Syndrome.

Difficulty: Challenging

- 1 Because individuals that are affected by Riley Day Syndrome may also exhibit convulsions, keep the person safe from injury.
- 2 When present, treat for Aspiration Pneumonia, an inflammation of the lungs and bronchial tubes due to inhaling foreign substances such as <u>foods</u>, liquid, vomit or secretions.
- **3** If the affected person exhibits convulsions, have their primary physician prescribe anticonvulsant therapy.
- 4 Individuals with Riley Day Syndrome who experience dry eyes should use eye drops or moisturizers.
- ${f 5}$  When vomiting is present, a physician may prescribe antiemetics to control it.