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Rare but real; Systemic Autoinflammatory Diseases of the Childhood

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Rare but real; Systemic Autoinflammatory Diseases of the Childhood

As a physician from the Mediterranean region, I was aware of Familial Mediterranean Fever, but I've never heard of other systemic autoinflammatory diseases (SAIDs). SAIDs are rare rheumatic diseases and have many uncommon symptoms that appear over the years. These complex patients often see many medical practitioners over time for various symptoms with fragmentation in care, emergency room visits, and hospitalizations. During my studies, I realized that dealing with SAIDs is very challenging for patients, their families, and their circle of medical care. Since the disease is "rare", many physicians don't have a sufficient background about the disease and don't have experience on how to treat and follow up with these patients. This would result in a delay in getting a correct diagnosis and proper treatment. The primary focus of my study is to evaluate factors affecting diagnostic delay and treatment choices to propose proper diagnostic criteria and the best treatment options for patients with SAIDs.