

Guidelines for Accessing PANS/PANDAS Treatment in Arkansas

To make treatment for children with Postinfectious Autoimmune Encephalopathy (PANS/PANDAS) more accessible in Arkansas:

1. The Arkansas Children's Hospital Childhood Post-infectious Autoimmune Encephalopathy (CPAE) Center of Excellence, should provide information on the medical standard-of care guidelines for diagnosing and treating Pediatric Acute-onset Neuropsychiatric Syndrome (PANS) and Pediatric Acute-onset Neuropsychiatric Disorders Associated with Streptococcus (PANDAS).
 - A. The information should incorporate the guidance provided by the NIH/NIMH in conjunction with the The PANS/PANDAS Research Consortium <https://www.pandasppn.org/guidelines/> along with other medical references such as <https://www.pandasppn.org/research-library/>
 - B. The guidelines should also include summary sheets and flowcharts describing PANS/PANDAS diagnosis and treatment (e.g. <https://www.pandasppn.org/pans/>)
 - C. By way of example, the guidelines might stipulate that:
 - A licensed physician (e.g. Pediatrician, Psychiatrist, Developmental Pediatrician, etc.), after having treated with two or more less-intensive therapies (e.g. limited course of nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs), corticosteroids, selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SSRIs), behavioral therapy, short-course antibiotic therapy) have been tried and were not effective, AND
 - A consultation and recommendation is issued by a pediatric sub-specialist (e.g., pediatric neurologist, neurologist, immunologist, rheumatologist, infectious disease) for IVIG treatment, THEN
 - Up to 3 monthly immunomodulatory courses of intravenous immunoglobulin (IVIG) therapy is recommended for treatment of PANDAS and PANS, ADDITIONALLY
 - A reevaluation at 3 months by the pediatric sub-specialist is required for continued therapy of IVIG. This evaluation must