

Thank you for your interest in the Pediatric Diagnostic Clinic at the University of Virginia. One common referral that we see in this clinic is for children whose families or primary care physicians are concerned about a possible diagnosis of PANS / PANDAS (Pediatric Acute-onset Neuropsychiatric Syndrome / Pediatric Autoimmune Neuropsychiatric Disorders Associated with Streptococcal Infections).

There is no specific test to tell whether or not someone has this diagnosis; instead, the diagnosis is based on a group of symptoms. There is also no definite answer about what causes this group of symptoms. Although the word “autoimmune” is in the title of these disorders, the scientific evidence that proves that PANS / PANDAS is caused by an autoimmune process is lacking.

In the Diagnostic Clinic we can review your child’s symptoms and discuss whether testing for any underlying cause would be helpful. We can also recommend treatment based on specific symptoms or findings (for example, anti-inflammatories for chronic pain or antibiotic therapy for recurrent strep infections). Based on the current scientific evidence and the balance of benefit versus risk we *do not* offer any immune-modulatory therapies including steroids, immune globulin (IVIG), or plasmapheresis.

Please call **434-924-9141** to schedule an appointment.