JUVENILE IDIOPATHIC ARTHRITIS (JIA)

MYTH (VS) FACT

Kids don't get arthritis.

Kids do get arthritis. The most common type of JIA starts at 2 to 4 years old.

A simple blood test or X-ray can confirm JIA.

There is no single test for JIA. Relying on tests alone can delay referrals to specialists and early treatment.

JIA only affects the joints.

JIA can affect the eyes, skin, lungs, and heart—not just the joints.

JIA can't cause blindness.

1 in 4 Canadians don't know that JIA can cause uveitis, a serious eye disease that may lead to vision loss.

Kids with JIA shouldn't play sports.

Over 1 in 3 parents believe this, but movement is beneficial for treatment and mobility.

Kids outgrow JIA.

38% of Canadians think this, but more than 60% of kids with JIA will live with it into adulthood. There is no cure.