Children with Williams syndrome share similar facial features. They experience medical, developmental and learning challenges, as well as attention disorders, and can exhibit a wide range in overall ability - from moderate cognitive impairments to low average IQ. Individuals with WS receive a variety of classifications for educational placements including LD, Mild MR, Moderate MR and OHI. Individuals with Williams syndrome often do very well in inclusive education classrooms when provided with the proper support and accommodations. Without knowledge of WS, many parents, doctors and teachers struggle to meet their needs given the unique medical and neuropsychological profile of these individuals.

**Typical physical & medical characteristics of Williams syndrome include:**

- Similar facial features
- Gastrointestinal and Cardiovascular problems; especially aortic and/or pulmonary stenosis
- Low-pitched voice; Early feeding difficulties; prolonged irritability
- Small stature/low muscle tone/joint contractures
- Small or missing teeth/Dental anomalies

**Typical neuropsychological & behavioral characteristics include:**

- On WISC - III, verbal score exceeds performance
- Overly friendly/excessively social personality
- Good language ability
- Perseveration on "favorite" topics
- Poor fine motor/visual motor/spatial perceptual performance
- Relatively good reading and phonics skills
- Enjoyment of, and proficiency in music
- Poor math and writing skills

For more information about Williams syndrome

The Williams Syndrome Association • 570 Kirts Blvd. #223 • Troy, MI 48084
Phone: 248-244-2229, Fax: 248-244-2230, E-mail: info@williams-syndrome.org
Web: williams-syndrome.org

© 2020 Williams Syndrome Association, Inc.