SUDDEN CARDIAC
DEATH IN THE YOUNG

• Each year in the United States, approximately 4,000 children and young adults die suddenly and unexpectedly due to cardiac arrhythmias. Most of these deaths are due to hereditary conditions.

• These conditions include Long QT Syndrome (LQTS), Arrhythmogenic Right Ventricular Dysplasia (ARVD), Brugada Syndrome, Catecholaminergic Polymorphic Ventricular Tachycardia (CPVT), and others.

• 10-12% of SIDS is due to Long QT Syndrome

• Long QT Syndrome is at least 3-4 times more common than childhood leukemia in the US.

• Most cardiac arrhythmias and structural defects that may cause sudden death in the young are identifiable and treatable. With treatment, people with these conditions often have normal lifespans and lifestyles.

References for the above facts are available online.

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Sudden Arrhythmia Death Syndromes (SADS) Foundation

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SADS Foundation Mission
To save the lives and support the families of children and young adults who are genetically predisposed to sudden death due to heart rhythm abnormalities.

In The Beginning
In 1991 a group of scientists headed by Drs. Michael Vincent and Mark Keating at the University of Utah isolated the chromosomal location for the first gene known to cause the Long QT Syndrome. This was a landmark discovery in the study of unexplained sudden death in the young. This breakthrough confirmed suspicions that LQTS was more common than once believed. As doctors learned more, it became clear the syndrome was widely misunderstood, and often, misdiagnosed.

The SADS Foundation was organized to make people aware of these conditions that can cause sudden death in the young: to provide support to children and families living with the reality and risks of serious heart rhythm abnormalities; and, to facilitate early diagnosis and treatment through health professionals education.

The SADS Foundation is a national leader serving children and families around the United States, attracting volunteers in every state and influencing researches, policies and programs to save more young lives.

www.StopSADS.org

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How we help

• Distribute educational materials annually to more than 29,000 patients, doctors, and families around the world.

• Provide physician and other specialist referrals to hundreds of families each year.

• Conduct the Family Pedigree Project to provide information, materials and support to help families identify additional members who might be at risk.

• Create SADS Safe Schools, working with nurses and administration to develop medical emergency plans and care plans for children with heart arrhythmias.

• Recruit, train and support dedicated volunteers working throughout the country to promote awareness and educate their communities.

• Distribute media kits to journalists resulting in increased awareness about Long QT Syndrome, Brugada Syndrome and other cardiac arrhythmias—both locally and nationally.

• Include quality content and interactive features on www.StopSADS.org which receives an average of 20,695 visits per month.

Patient/Family Support: We provide information, resources, and consultation to assist patients and their families to make informed medical decisions and to live and thrive with heart rhythm conditions.

General Awareness/Prevention: We increase the general public’s knowledge of the warning signs of Long QT Syndrome, Brugada Syndrome and other cardiac arrhythmias through a variety of ways, including our website, conferences and health fairs, SADS Awareness Month activities and Climb to Conquer SADS.

Health Professionals Education: We facilitate early diagnosis and treatment of heart rhythm abnormalities by ensuring that healthcare providers have all available current and relevant information.

Advocacy/Research: We encourage increased arrhythmia research, advocate for nondiscriminatory treatment, and efforts that will improve the quality of life for patients with arrhythmia conditions.

Volunteers: We recruit, train and provide support and resources for volunteers across the country to work collaboratively with us to implement SADS’ programs that will help save young lives.

Donate – SADS relies on donations to support our programs. We hope you can contribute to our life-saving efforts. As a SADS donor, you will join a community of people committed to preventing sudden cardiac deaths in young people.

☐ I would like to contribute a gift of $____

☐ I have enclosed a check payable to the SADS Foundation.

Charge my: □ Mastercard □ Visa □ AmEx

Card number ___________________________ Exp. Date ___________ Signature ___________

Name on card ___________________________ Signature ___________

You can also donate online at www.StopSADS.org.

Volunteer – The SADS Foundation relies on volunteers throughout the country to increase awareness about cardiac arrhythmias, reach out to physicians, school nurses, coaches and others and support Foundation community programs. We are always looking for interested people and the talents they bring.

☐ I would like to volunteer

Find out more – The SADS Foundation has a variety of educational materials, including posters, brochures, fact sheets, articles and newsletters. Many of these materials can be found on our website at www.StopSADS.org.

☐ I would like more information.

Name ___________________________

Address ___________________________

City State Zip

Phone, home Work Cell

Email ___________________________

Please return this form to the SADS Foundation, 508 E. South Temple, Suite 20, Salt Lake City, UT 84102.