

Irish Haemochromatosis Association **(<https://www.activelink.ie/node/8821>)**

What is haemochromatosis?

Haemochromatosis is a genetic disorder where an excessive amount of iron is absorbed from the diet. This excess is then deposited in various organs, mainly the liver, but also the pancreas, heart and the joints.

Normally the liver stores iron for the essential purpose of providing new red blood cells with iron vital for health. When excess quantities of iron are stored in the liver it becomes enlarged and deposits of iron in the pancreas, heart, and joints cause serious damage to the tissue of these organs.

Aims of the Irish Haemochromatosis Association

The aim of the IHA is to raise awareness of Haemochromatosis both in the medical and the general population as early diagnosis and treatment of this condition prevents organ damage and may even save lives.

The Irish Haemochromatosis Association aims to provide support and information for those suffering with haemochromatosis and related disorders, to facilitate networking among members, and to encourage screening of members' extended families through:

1. Production of a newsletter, brochures, and other media that provide information about and raise awareness of Haemochromatosis.
2. Formation of a membership bank.
3. Education of the general public and members of the medical profession about haemochromatosis
4. Information gathering to advance knowledge of the disorder.
5. The promotion and development of relationships with other voluntary agencies and with those involved in the medical field in order to advance the knowledge and treatment of haemochromatosis.
6. Fund-raising to assist the organisation in its objectives.

Contact Info

Irish Haemochromatosis Association

The Carmichael Centre, North Brunswick Street, Dublin 7

Voice Mail: [\(01\) 8735911](tel:018735911) (tel:018735911)

Email

info@haemochromatosis-ir.com

Website

<https://haemochromatosis-ir.com/home.html> (<https://haemochromatosis-ir.com/home.html>)

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