

Pediatric/Adolescent Gastroesophageal Reflux Association, Inc.

**PAGER
Association**

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Dear Parents,

Welcome to the world of Gastroesophageal Reflux. We know you aren't thrilled to be here, but you have plenty of friends to keep you company.

PAGER works with physicians by showing you practical ways to implement the positioning and feeding instructions. Some parents have found that using these ideas can make a profound change in their child's condition. PAGER does not give medical advice nor do we recommend using or avoiding any specific treatments, devices, physicians or facilities. We try to give you unbiased information so that you can make informed decisions.

It doesn't matter whether your child has "mild reflux" or "severe GERD," it is usually stressful on the whole family. Children with reflux may need extra help just to eat, sleep or get any enjoyment out of their lives. There may also be many home care instructions you will be expected to follow to help your child be as healthy as possible. We call this "Intensive Care Parenting.™"

PAGER has trained volunteers who understand the emotional and physical strains that pediatric GER can cause. The kind of support that PAGER can give to its members can be critical during the difficult time of learning to understand the disease fully and learning to cope. Please visit our web site to learn more about GERD and meet other families. www.reflux.org

Please consider joining PAGER. Most of your membership dues go to printing, postage and spreading the word to other families who are seeking a diagnosis. With the launch of the Gut Instincts Pediatric GERD Awareness Campaign, we will be contacted by thousand of families dealing with reflux. If all of you become PAGER members, we will not have to rely as heavily on funding from industry or foundation grants which are harder to win in this economy. More paying members also means we can afford more staff time to write newsletters and booklets. (Maybe we can even finish the pediatric GERD book that is long overdue!)

When you join PAGER, please consider creating a family profile with a story about your GER experiences. Our *Reflux Digest* newsletters are a mixture of family stories, medical article summaries, news about helpful products, original articles about coping with various aspects of reflux, updates on the genetic study, summaries of lectures at the medical conferences we attend, and irreverent humor.

Again, welcome to our world. Together we can help each other and our suffering kids,

The PAGER Team