

Table e-1. Common Infantile and Pediatric Leukodystrophies

	Pathophysiology	Diagnosis	Clinical manifestations
Krabbe disease* (globoid cell leukodystrophy) ^{e1}	Lysosomal storage disorder: Deficiency of the enzyme galactocerebrosidase	Autosomal recessive, biallelic variants in <i>GALC</i> gene	Irritability, limb spasticity, truncal hypotonia, absent reflexes, microcephaly
Alexander disease ^{e2*}	Dysmyelinating disorder with Rosenthal fibers within astrocytes	Autosomal dominant, de novo variants in <i>GFAP</i> gene (glial fibrillary acidic protein)	Megalencephaly, psychomotor regression; typically young school age but infantile forms described
Metachromatic leukodystrophy ^{e3*}	Lysosomal storage disorder: Deficiency of arylsulfatase A	Autosomal recessive, biallelic variants in <i>ARSA</i> gene; also detected by low enzyme activity or elevated urine sulfatides	Late infantile form with progressive gait problems (14-16 months)
Pelizaeus-Merzbacher disease ^{e4*}	Hypomyelinating disorder with axonal degeneration	X-linked pathogenic variant in <i>PLP1</i> gene**	Pendular nystagmus, head tremor, hypotonia and motor delays progressing to spasticity and ataxia, optic atrophy, seizures
X-linked Adrenoleukodystrophy ^{e5*}	Peroxisomal disorder: Abnormal function of protein within the peroxisomal membrane.	X-linked pathogenic variant in <i>ABCD1</i> gene**; now included on NBS for many states detected by elevated very long chain fatty acids	Boys (4-8 years of age) presenting with behavior problems and regression
Canavan disease ^{e6*}	Spongiform degeneration of the brain: Deficiency of aspartoacylase leading to increased <i>N</i> -acetylaspartic acid (NAA) causing demyelination	Autosomal recessive pathogenic variants in the <i>ASPA</i> gene; also detected by elevated NAA on MR spectroscopy or in urine	Normal development until 3-5 months of age, followed by lethargy, hypotonia, optic atrophy that progresses to spasticity, feeding difficulties, and seizures

*Listed in American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology (ABPN) Certification Examination Content Specifications

**X-linked disorders would be less likely in female patients

eReferences

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- e3. Gomez-Ospina N. *Arylsulfatase A Deficiency*. University of Washington, Seattle; 2017.
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- e6. Matalon R, Delgado L, Michals-Matalon K. *Canavan Disease*. University of Washington, Seattle; 2018.