



UNC
KIDNEY CENTER

Podcast Transcript:

Dr. Ron Falk

Minimal Change Disease

“Minimal Change Disease: What are the most common symptoms?”

Parent of Patient What are the most common symptoms? Can these change over time?

Dr. Falk So the most common thing that I’m sure you’ve recognized in your own child is swelling of the feet and ankles— “edema”, as it’s known, and that’s by far the most common problem.

The problem of losing too much protein in the urine also results in infections, as you know. The laboratory findings that I talked about earlier, high serum cholesterol and low serum protein. The high cholesterol is not a consequence of what your child is eating, it’s just that your child’s liver is making up for the loss of serum protein and making too much cholesterol.

The good news about Minimal Change Disease is that with treatment, the whole process can be brought under control. In fact, in some children, the disease can go away all by itself.