

THE STORY OF ADRENOCORTICAL CARCINOMA



This educational brochure was designed by ESTEVE and Hannah Franjou in collaboration with ENS@T, Let's Cure ACC, patients and their families. We would like to thank all patients with adrenocortical carcinoma and families for their valuable insights and time.

The reader must not undergo treatments or follow advice without first contacting healthcare professional.

• ENS@T is the European Network for the Study of Adrenal Tumours.

<https://ensat.org/>

• ESTEVE is a pharmaceutical company that provides treatments in different disease areas.

<https://www.esteve.com/>

• Let's Cure ACC is the international patient advocacy group dedicated solely to adrenal carcinoma.

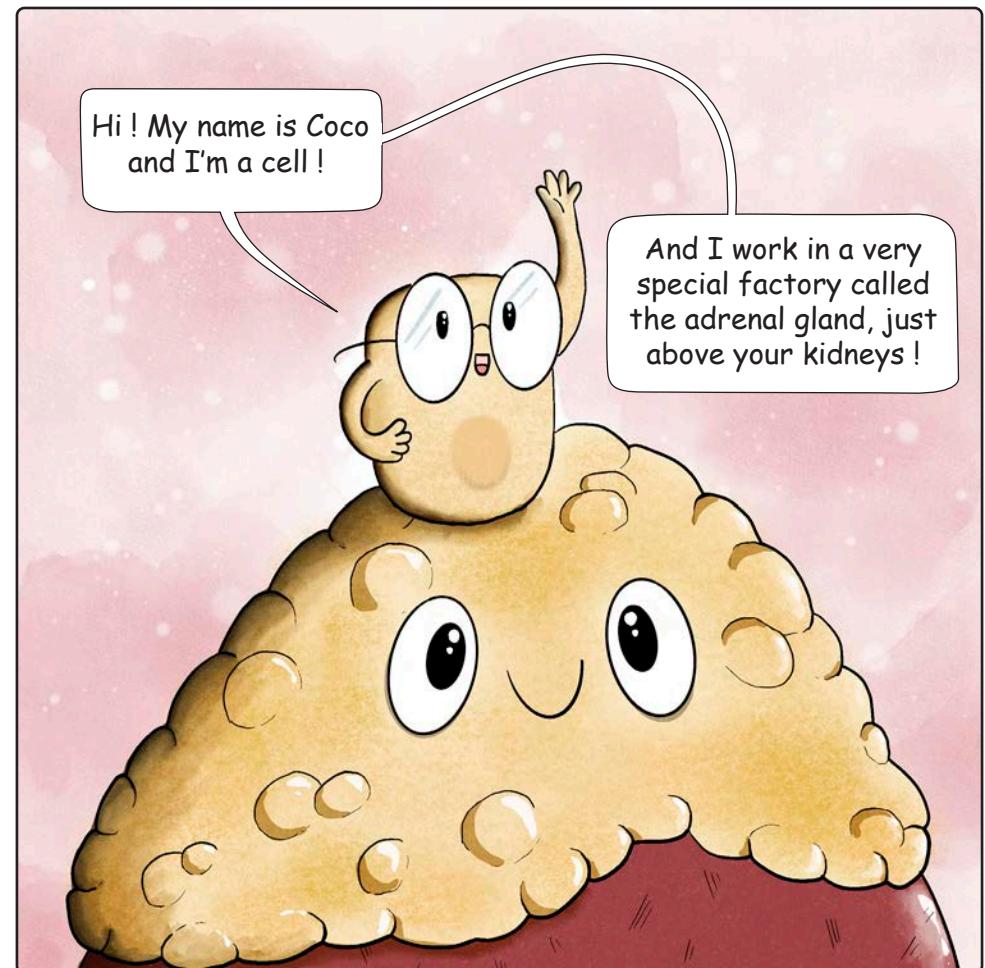
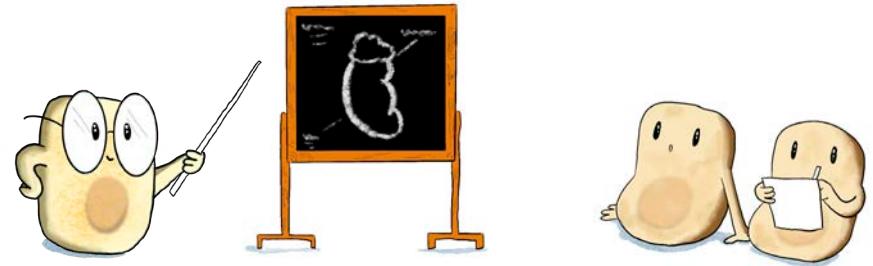
<https://letscureacc.com/>

THE STORY OF ADRENOCORTICAL CARCINOMA

Illustrator : Hannah Franjou



1. THE ADRENAL GLAND, A SPECIAL FACTORY

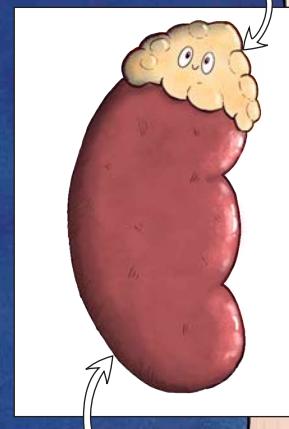


You have two kidneys that are located in the middle of your back. One kidney is located on the right and another on the left side.

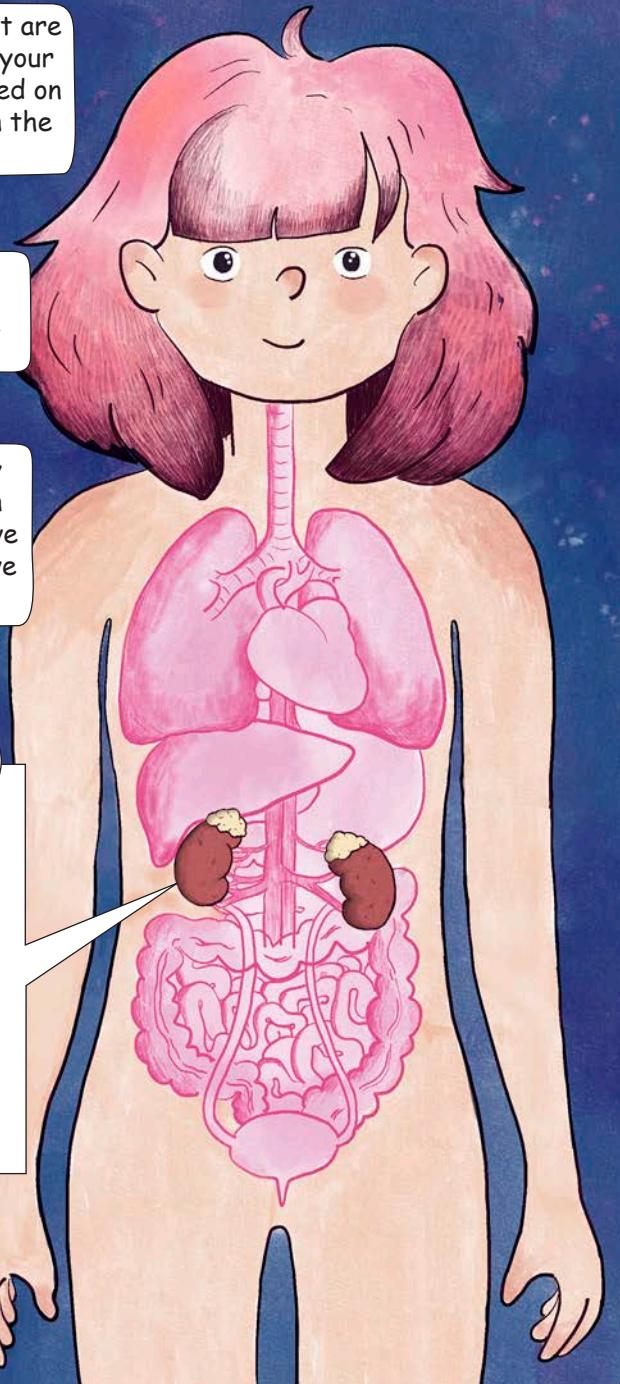
Kidneys help clean your blood and produce urine.

Each kidney has its tiny factory on top called an adrenal gland. As you have two kidneys, you also have two adrenal glands.

Adrenal gland

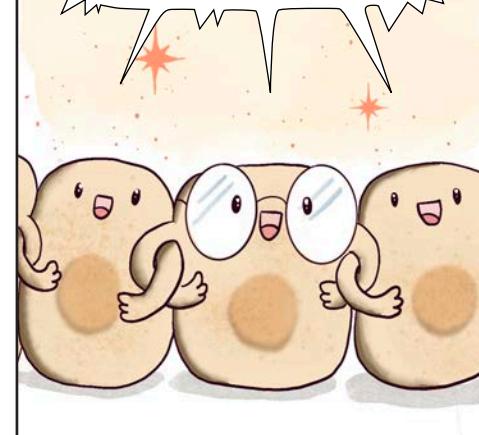


Kidney



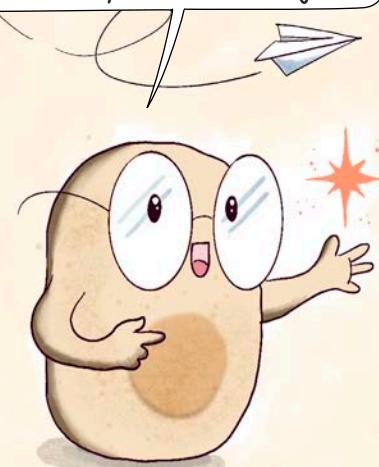
In the adrenal gland, a special subset of cells in the outer layer of this gland produce an important hormone...

Cortisol !

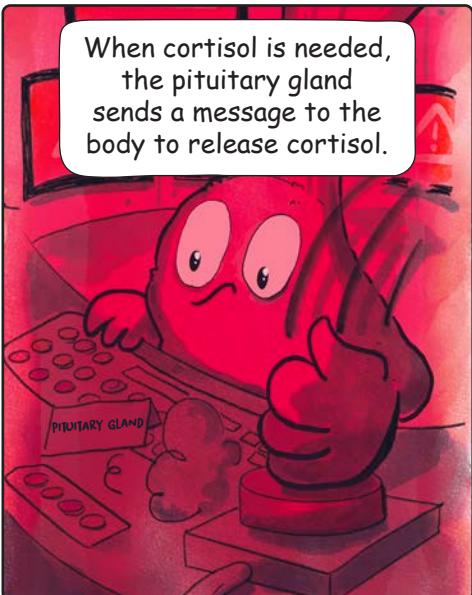
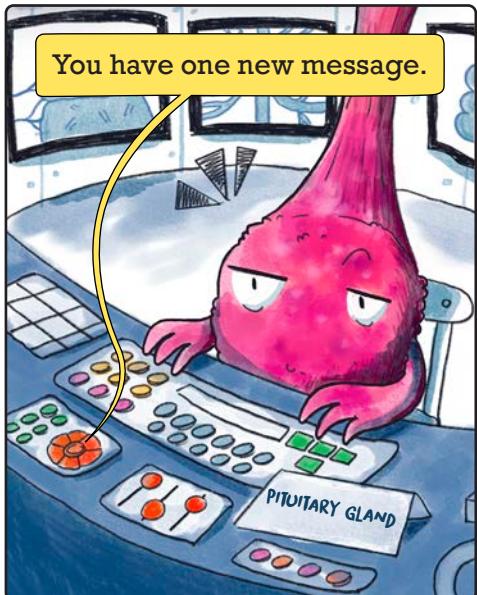
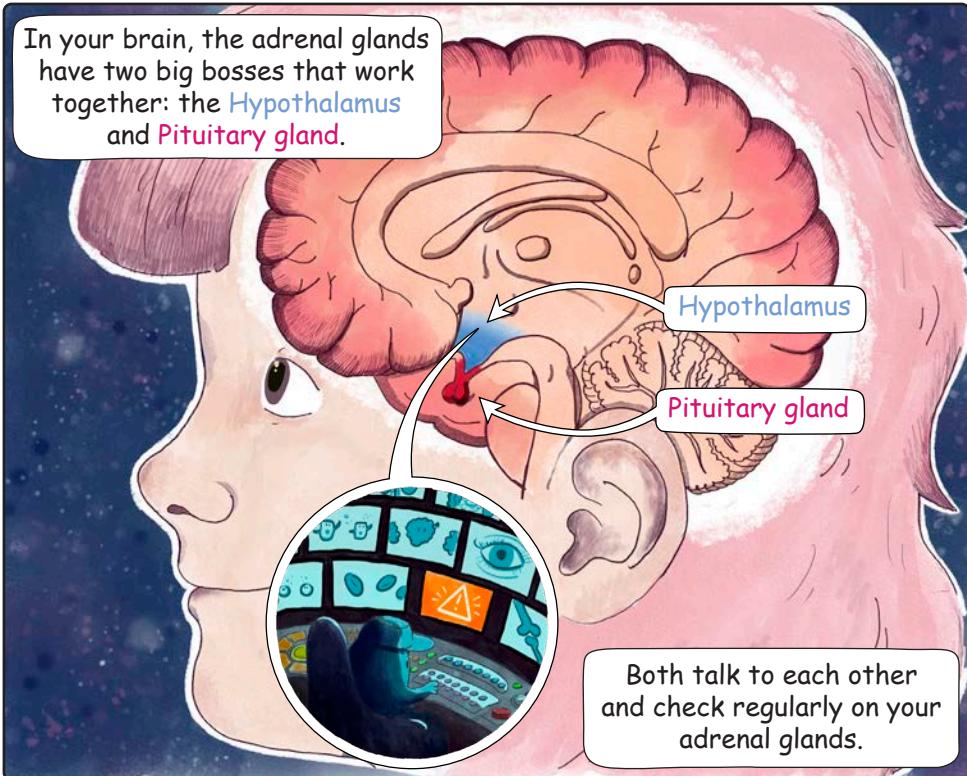


Hormones are like specific messages that tell your body what to do.

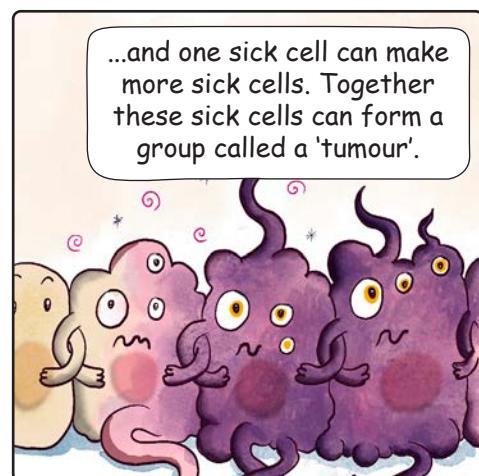
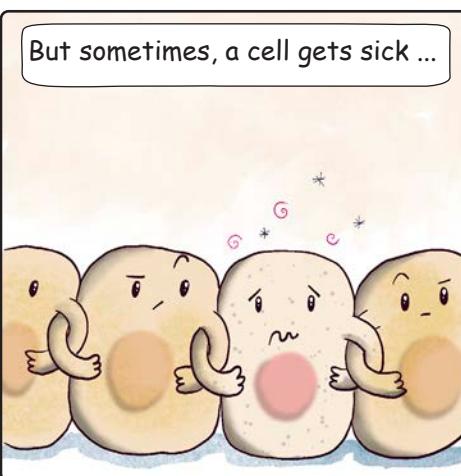
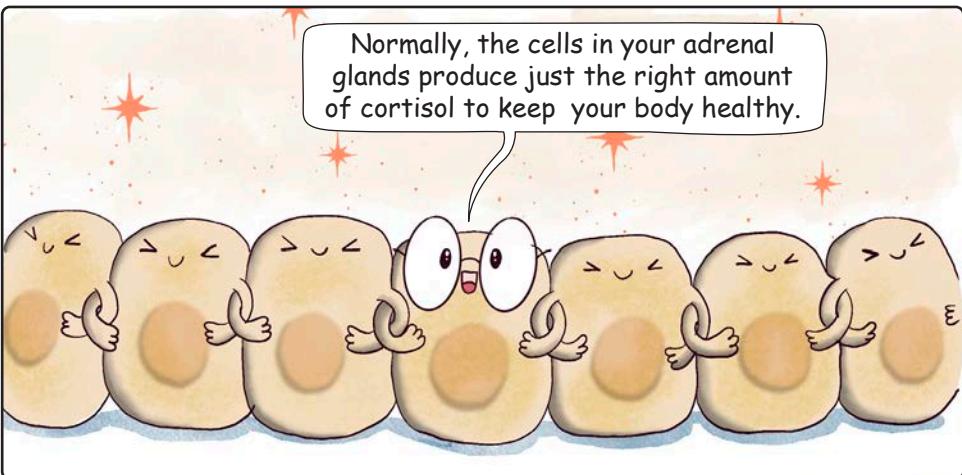
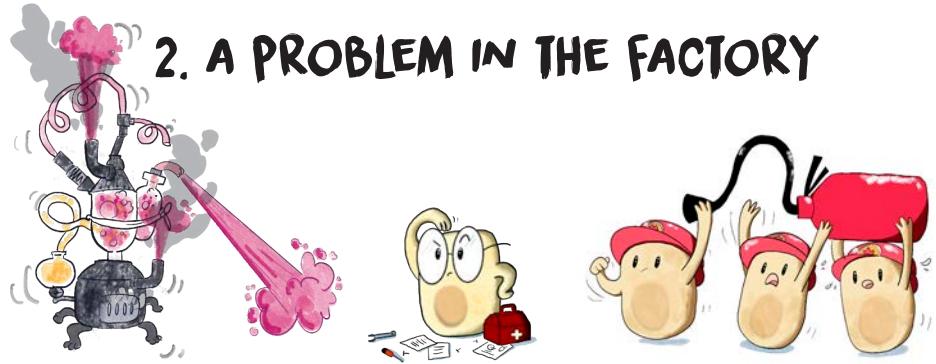
Cortisol is a hormone that helps you manage stress, gives you energy (especially when you wake up), and helps keep your body safe when you're sick or injured.

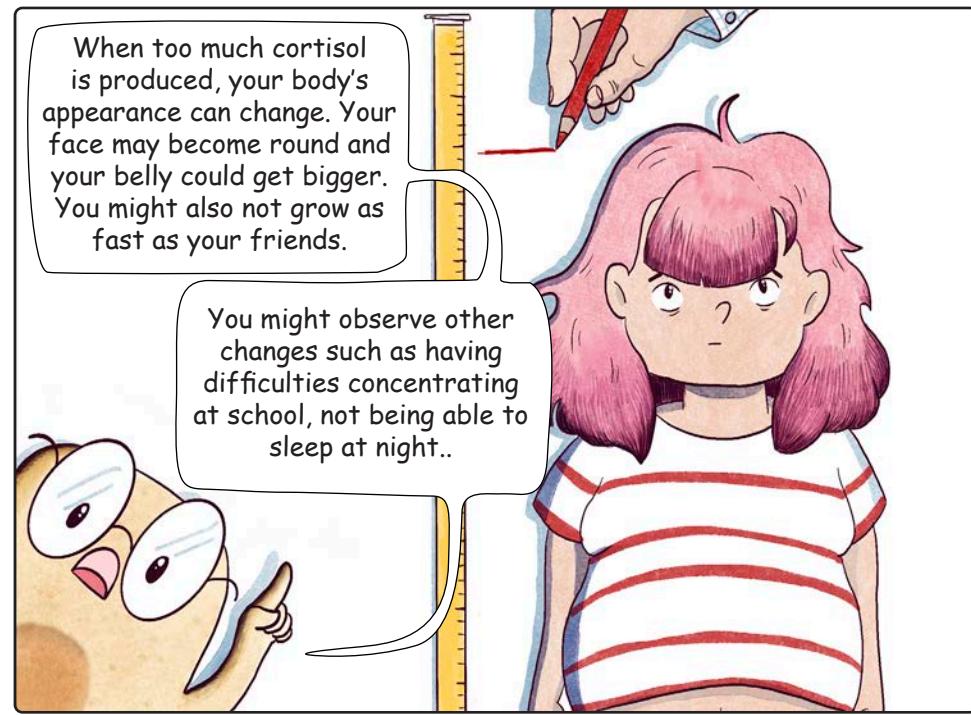
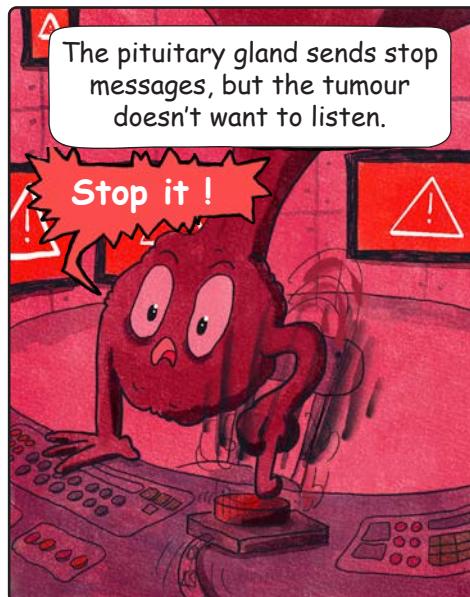
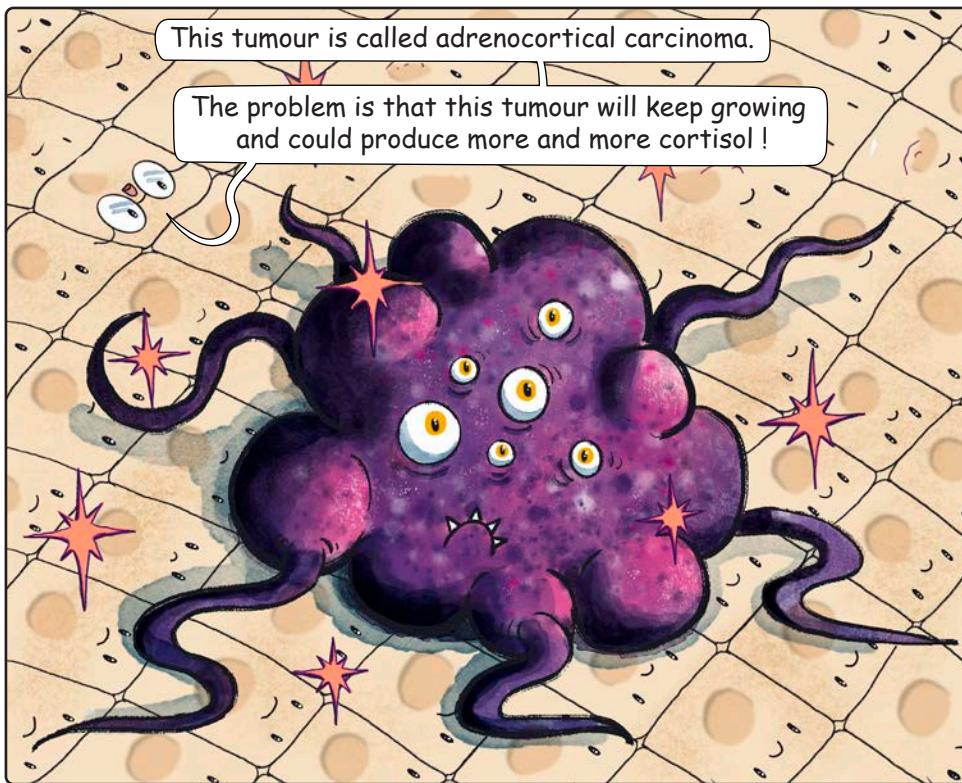


In your brain, the adrenal glands have two big bosses that work together: the Hypothalamus and Pituitary gland.

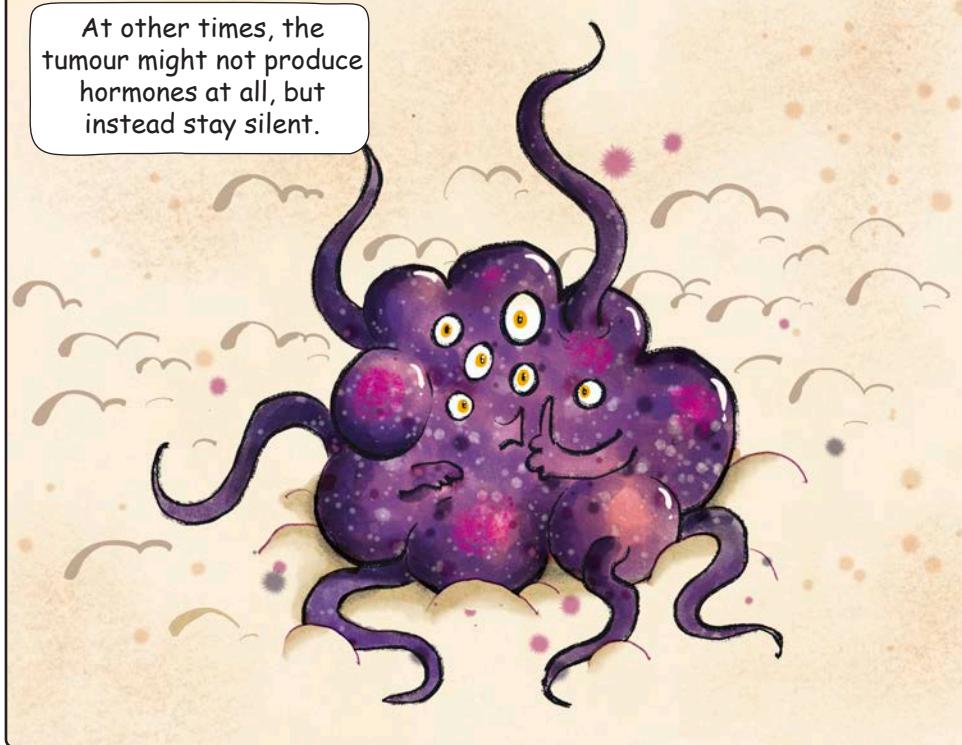


2. A PROBLEM IN THE FACTORY

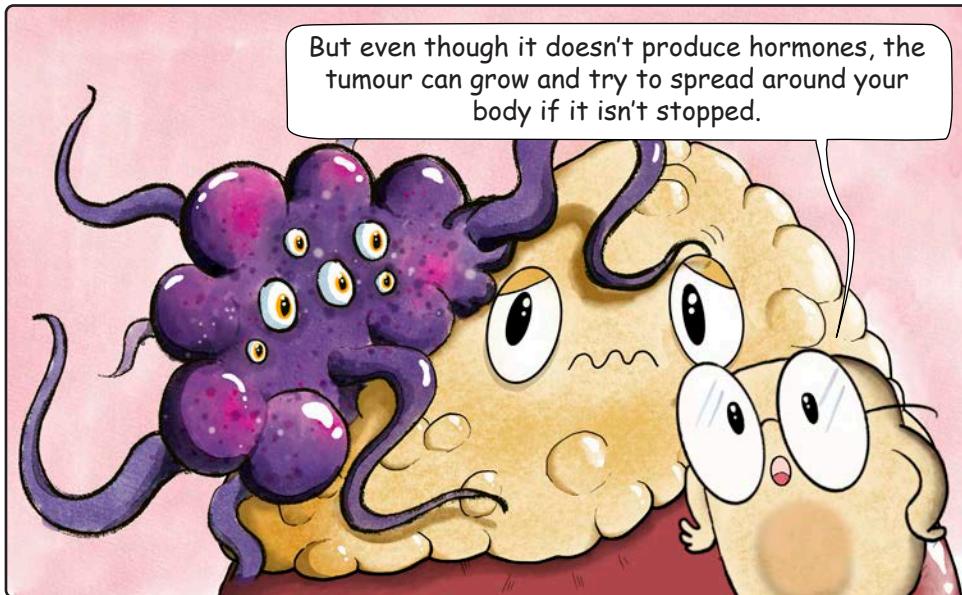




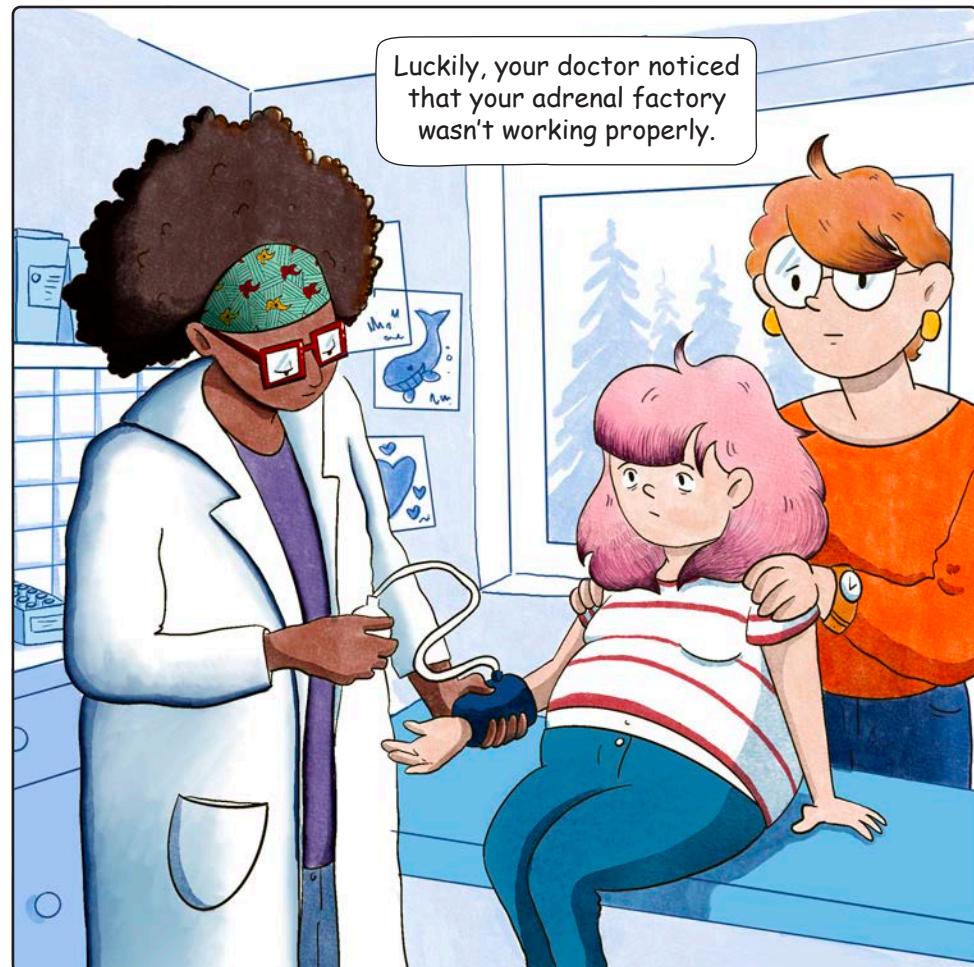
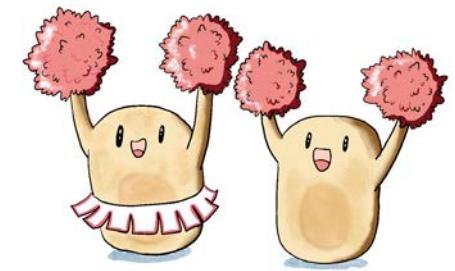
At other times, the tumour might not produce hormones at all, but instead stay silent.



But even though it doesn't produce hormones, the tumour can grow and try to spread around your body if it isn't stopped.

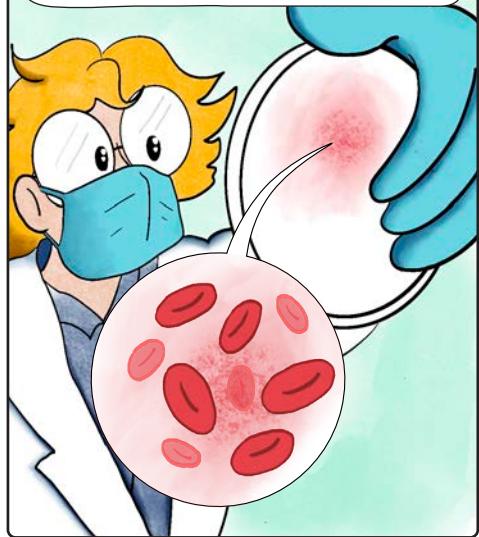


3. YOUR DOCTOR TO THE RESCUE !

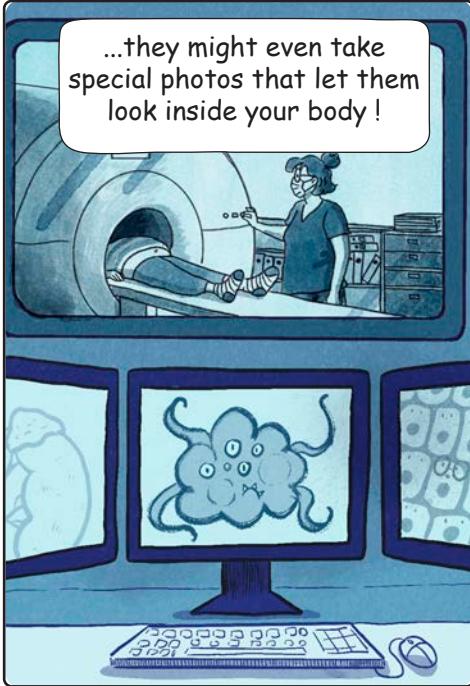


Luckily, your doctor noticed that your adrenal factory wasn't working properly.

To find the adrenocortical carcinoma (the tumour), specialised doctors will ask you to do a lot of tests ...



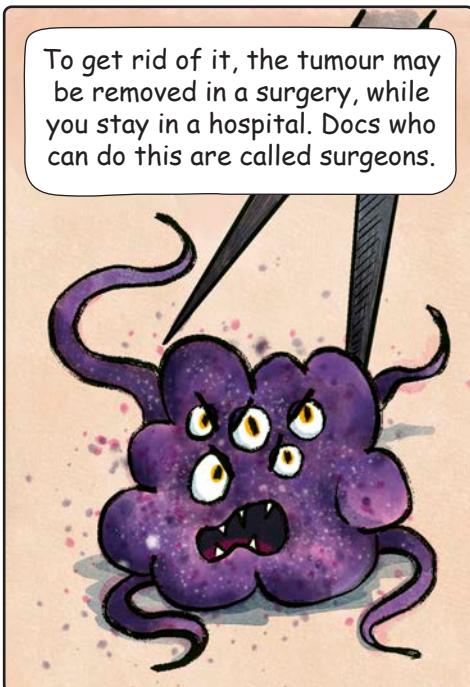
...they might even take special photos that let them look inside your body !



They will also give you a special treatment so you can fight against the tumour !



To get rid of it, the tumour may be removed in a surgery, while you stay in a hospital. Docs who can do this are called surgeons.



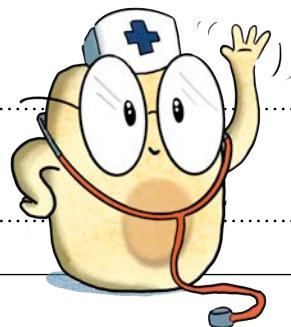
Together, with your family and your doctors, you make an amazing team !



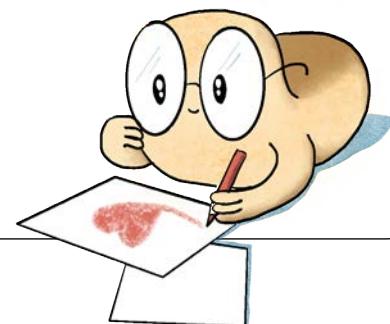
MY LITTLE NOTES

Here, you can write down any questions that pop into your head, or anything important you want to remember.

You can show these notes to the doctor next time !



MY LITTLE DRAWINGS



Hi! My name is Coco. Come with me to learn about adrenocortical carcinoma. If you open the booklet, you'll discover loads of cool stuff!



SCAN HERE
to download
this booklet



ESTEVE

