

Gastrointestinal (GI) Issues in KAT6



GI issues are common in individuals with KAT6 due to low muscle tone and differences in gut motility. These can lead to constipation, slowed digestion, acid reflux, or more serious complications such as bowel obstructions. This may sound overwhelming, but treatments and feeding supports can make a big difference. Although rare, conditions like **malrotation** or **volvulus** can be life-threatening if not treated promptly. Because communication challenges and a high tolerance for pain are common in KAT6, you should monitor your child's bowel habits closely, watch for changes in behavior, and seek medical attention immediately if something seems wrong. Early recognition and intervention are key to preventing serious complications.

GI Terms to Know

Malrotation:

abnormal positioning of the intestines during fetal development

Volvulus:

Twisting of intestine causing bowel obstruction

[MUST READ](#)

BOWEL OBSTRUCTION – QUICK GUIDE

Children and adults with KAT6 may experience bowel obstructions, which can become life-threatening if not treated quickly.

SIGNS TO WATCH FOR:

- Changes in bowel movements or constipation
- Vomiting, diarrhea, bloating, or swelling
- Unusual irritability, withdrawal, lethargy, or restlessness
- If your child cannot reliably communicate pain, changes in behavior may be the first sign.

WHY IT MATTERS:

Some intestinal problems, like malrotation or volvulus need fast medical care. Even if your child is still passing gas or stool, a blockage can still be serious. If something seems wrong, seek medical attention immediately.

YOUR ROLE:

You know your child better than anyone. If you ever notice something that feels different for them or doesn't seem quite right, it's okay to reach out to your healthcare team. Trusting your instincts and speaking up when you have concerns can make a big difference in keeping your child healthy and supported.