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Sarah's Story

I was diagnosed with Neurofibromatosis Type 2 (NF2) at 23 years old, but in truth, the diagnosis meant nothing to me at the time. I had never heard of it, no one I knew had heard of it, and I was given very little information by my doctors.

NF2 causes tumours to grow on nerve endings throughout the body, most notably, and dangerously, on the brain and spine. The hospital had discovered a 4cm tumour, an acoustic neuroma, attached to my hearing and facial nerve. This was partly removed, resulting in facial palsy and total hearing loss

in my right ear, but they later discovered a second, 2cm tumour on the left-hand side, and a 4cm tumour at the base of my spine, along with 37 small tumours all along the spine.

It was only then that the severity of my condition actually hit me. I was not going to get well from this. It would only get worse. The life that I had planned for myself was not going to happen, and there wasn't a thing I could do about it.

The work that Nerve Tumours UK does in raising awareness and providing support is very important to me and other people with Neurofibromatosis. Any support you can give is really welcomed and appreciated.

