

Lily....I like to wear a wig to school rather than anyone seeing me with no or little hair.

Hello my name is Lily. I'm 11 years old and I have Alopecia Areata Universalis.

It took three whole weeks for my blond hair to fall out completely in February 2012 when I was 9 years and three weeks old.

In June 2013, my hair started to regrow, starting with some eyelashes and then started to grow back on my head. At the moment, I have some medium brown hair on most of my scalp and I have narrow eyebrows and some eyelashes on my top eyelid. I also have very small hairs on my arm just near my elbow. I do not have any hair elsewhere on my body.

A symptom of alopecia can be damage to nails. People who have alopecia may have also had eczema, which I had when I was younger. The treatments are limited for Alopecia Universalis. The only thing to do is wait. Sometimes the hair will grow back and the Alopecia will not occur again, or it may fall out at any time on multiple occasions and regrow again and again.

In the last two years I have received three wigs from my parents. They are all different and all have names. They are Sara, Ellie and Miley. The wigs need to be cared for with special shampoo and conditioner and brushed with a special wire brush.

I wear a wig to school and to play sport such as netball, but not at gymnastics because it would fall off. Wigs are hot and itchy, and get quite ratty and are annoying. Sara has even had a haircut.

I like to wear a wig to school rather than anyone seeing me with no or little hair.

Due to my alopecia, I go to an Immunologist specialist in Brisbane once a year, where I also see a dietician. I have blood tests to check my hormone levels. I have also seen a dermatologist through my local hospital. Thank you for reading my story. Lily x

