

**Cycle 6- Hives and Shoulder
2603 - The Emotional Cost of Hives
SCRIPT**

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TRAVISIA, patient:

My hives are very severe.

I woke up one morning and I had welts all over my body. And first thing I thought about, "What am I allergic to?" You know, this is the first time, so later that evening, they went away. And then the next day it happened again in the morning. And a little vain, I was like, "Wait a minute, summer is coming up, how am I going to wear a dress? I have all these welts on me."

Before I even looked at my body, I could feel it was an internal itch. It's nothing I ever experienced before. And when I got up, I looked at my legs and my thighs and it was these big, round welts. And they were just everywhere.

When I first went to the allergist, I didn't know what to expect.

My lips had swollen, and I looked, to me, I looked like a creature out of space or something. I just didn't I was scared to even go out. So he said, "We're going to treat it with steroids. That's the most invasive and to, you know, calm it down." Once he did that he prescribed pills. I was on pills, and then on // injection. And I was a little afraid. Only because he has to give me the pros and the cons to everything.

On the treatment I'm on now, I don't worry about it, because my hives are under control. And even if I do have a flare up, it's not like it was before. I may have one or two, but they're not all over my body. I'm managed every day with the medication and the treatment I'm on now. Later, my doctor said I may come off of everything. You know, so it just takes time. But right now I'm happy with my progress.

The treatment works. It's different for everybody, mine was severe. But it's manageable.

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