

ARTS AND LUPUS

Lupus Fact Sheet

1. Lupus is an incurable autoimmune disease, which holds the ability to attack:
 - healthy cells,
 - tissues,
 - various bodily systems,
 - blood,
 - skin, and
 - vital organs
2. Not contagious, cancerous, or rare.
3. More prevalent than AIDS, Sickle Cell Anemia, Cerebral Palsy, Multiple Sclerosis, and Cystic Fibrosis ~ **combined**.
4. Men, women, children, and the elderly can develop lupus.
5. Kills thousands each year
6. Extremely difficult to diagnose
7. **Symptoms** vary from patient to patient and include – but are in no means limited to:
 - hair loss,
 - sore throats and fevers,
 - a butterfly rash across the bridge of the nose and cheeks,
 - severe: body pain, joint pain, weakness, and fatigue
 - blood clots
 - seizures and
 - vital organ involvement, such as the kidneys, lungs, heart, and brain
8. Researchers know lupus patients have a **genetic predisposition** to getting it, but finding a way to stop it from developing into lupus still remains a mystery.
9. Treatments include, but are not limited to:
 - Steroids, anti-malaria drugs, pain and symptom medication
 - kidney dialysis,
 - chemotherapy and
 - hospitalization for heart, lungs, and other vital organ involvement
10. If Lupus Researchers had **proper research** funds ~ **no one would die from it**. The only way to beat this is by getting the funds for cutting-edge **Lupus research**.
11. Funding for this disease is **not as prominent** as it is for:
 - cancer,
 - heart disease,
 - diabetes, or
 - AIDS

Yet, as mentioned earlier, it is **more prevalent than: AIDS**, Sickle Cell Anemia, Cerebral Palsy, Multiple Sclerosis, and Cystic Fibrosis ~ **combined**. **It is still the most under-researched, incurable disease to date** ~ and it unnecessarily takes thousands of lives each year.

