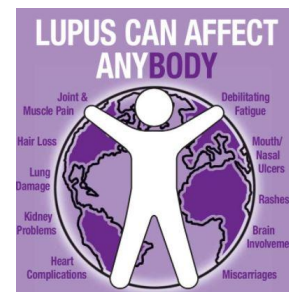


Lupus News



Contact us:

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MAKE YOUR MARK
for Lupus Foundation of America

Make Your Mark program by the Lupus Foundation of America is an online fundraising platform that empowers supporters to create unique events to raise funds for lupus research and education.

Donate?

http://support.lupus.org/got o/Christine_Houde



How Lupus Affects the Body

Lupus can affect various parts of the body: skin; digestive system; muscles; tendons and joints; nervous system, lungs; kidneys, heart and circulation; eyes, memory; liver; mouth; and bones.

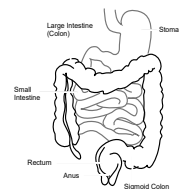
Lupus and the Skin

Most people with lupus have skin problems, although lupus can affect people in different ways. The butterfly rash (malar rash) is a rash that is shaped like a butterfly on the cheeks and nose.

Lupus and the Digestive System

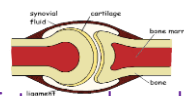
The digestive system includes the mouth, esophagus, stomach, intestines, and anus, as well as the liver, pancreas and gallbladder.

Lupus can cause mouth sores and inflammation of the gums. People may also develop sores in the lining of the stomach. When the muscles are too weak it can cause acid reflux. When inflammation of the blood vessels occurs it cause symptoms that include abdominal pain, feeling bloated, and nauseated.



Lupus and Muscles, Tendons and Joints

People with lupus can have problems with their joints, muscles and bones. Joint problems related to lupus is a result of inflammation in the joints. Many people with lupus develop osteoporosis (low bone density). Connective tissue that cushions the bones and supports the body can be damaged.



Lupus and the Nervous System

The nervous system has 3 parts: central nervous system; peripheral nervous system; and the autonomic nervous system. The central nervous system includes the brain and spinal cord. Symptoms of the CNS include lupus brain fog, seizures and strokes. Peripheral neuropathy main symptoms are loss of vision, ringing in the ears, dizziness, carpal tunnel syndrome, causes pain, tingling and numbness in the hand. Lastly the autonomic nervous system can cause a wide range of symptoms including stomach problems and changes in heart rate or blood pressure.



Lupus and the Pulmonary System

Inflammation caused by lupus can affect the lining of the lungs, the lungs themselves, the blood vessels within the lungs and the diaphragm. Functions of the pulmonary system is to enable gas exchange through three main processes: ventilation; movement of air into the lungs; diffusion; the exchange of oxygen and carbon dioxide; and perfusion; the flow of blood through the pulmonary capillaries. Shrinking lung is a rare but serious complication of lupus that leads to reduced lung volume and breathing difficulties.

Lupus and the Kidneys

Many people with lupus have problems with their kidney. The kidney is responsible for filtering waste of the blood to make urine and also controls blood pressure and keeps the right balance of salt, acid and minerals in the blood.

Lupus and the Heart and Circulation



Lupus increases the risk for heart disease, including coronary artery disease (CAD). Inflammation in the heart can result in endocarditis; inflammation in the heart walls and valves; myocarditis; inflammation in the heart muscle; and pericarditis; inflammation in the sac of the heart. People with lupus can also have problems with blood vessels that are present on the skin. Raynaud's phenomenon; finger and toes turn white or blue and feel numb; livedo reticularis; blue or purple pattern on the skin; and palmar erythema; palms of the hand turn red.



Lupus and the Eyes

Lupus can cause skin problems around the eye and dry eye. This occurs usually due to a condition called Sjogren syndrome. With dry eye symptoms can also include blurry vision, scratchy or burning feeling and feeling like something is in the eye.

Lupus and the Liver

The liver is responsible for digesting food and filtering waste out of the blood. Lupus can affect the liver in a number of ways that include hepatitis or inflammation of the liver. <https://www.lupus.org/resource>



More information coming soon



Meet a
Lupus Warrior
Christine