

When the symptoms are pointing everywhere

Focus on lupus

Lupus is a chronic, incurable autoimmune disease that occurs when our tissues attack our own immune systems. Lupus can affect many parts of the body, including the joints, skin, kidneys, heart, lungs, blood vessels, and brain. The condition is extremely complicated and unpredictable, making it one of the most easily misdiagnosed medical conditions.

The symptoms of lupus resemble those of other more common conditions, including rheumatoid arthritis, fibromyalgia, hepatitis C, influenza, and many others. Some of the most common lupus symptoms are:

- Extreme fatigue
- Joint pain, stiffness, and swelling
- Fever and muscle pain
- Hair loss and skin rashes

Another hallmark of lupus is that the symptoms tend to be sporadic, meaning that they sometimes can “flare up” and other times are in remission, further confusing the prospect for a proper and accurate diagnosis.

There is no single test to diagnose lupus, and it sometimes takes months or even years for a diagnosis of lupus. The similarities of lupus symptoms to those of other diseases and the lack of testing protocols makes this inflammatory disease one of the most obvious candidates for the Best Doctors service.

If you have symptoms like the ones mentioned here, you should immediately consult with your personal physician. But as you begin that uncertain process,



you can rest assured that the Best Doctors service will help you take away some of the uncertainty.

Our expansive network of experts and the straightforward, simple explanations that they provide will give you peace of mind as you begin the investigation into what your symptoms represent. Let us help you focus your attention where it belongs, with a detailed, comprehensive expert opinion that will point you in the right direction for treatment.

The benefit of *removing the doubt*

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