

MYTH versus REALITY in LUPUS

Only affects women



- ~90% of people with lupus are women. **It strikes the male population too**, and tends to be more severe in men¹

Easy to diagnose



- **No single test to definitively diagnose lupus** and it affects every patient differently.² On average it takes nearly **six years for a correct lupus diagnosis**, from when symptoms are first noticed.³

A skin disease



- **Systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE) makes up ~70% of all lupus cases** and can affect other parts of the body, including major organs such as the kidney, lung, heart and brain. Cutaneous lupus (affecting only the skin) makes up ~10% of lupus cases³

Non-fatal



- Five-year survival has improved to over 90% from a low of 50% in the 1950s. Complications remain a **major cause of mortality and morbidity**²

References

¹Pons-Estel GJ, Alarcón GS, Scofield L, Reinlib L, Cooper GS. Understanding the epidemiology and progression of systemic lupus erythematosus. *Semin Arthritis Rheum* 2010; 39:257-68. ²Lateef A, Petri M. Unmet medical needs in systemic lupus erythematosus. *Arthritis Res Ther* 2012; 14:S4. ³Lupus Foundation of America (2015). Statistics on lupus. Available at: <http://www.lupus.org/about/statistics-on-lupus> (accessed October 2016).

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