

What is Lupus?

- It is an acute chronic autoimmune disease
- The immune system over-activates and misfires
- It can target any tissue or organ
- It can lead to organ failure & death

Who Gets Lupus?

- Anyone can get it
- It affects about 50,000 Canadians
- 15% develop lupus as children
- Between ages of 15 to 45, 80% are women
- No gender bias in children & those over 45

Winning the Lupus Lottery is No Prize!

- It is difficult to diagnose
- It takes far too long to obtain a diagnosis
- It is complex and involves multi-organs

Lupus Lottery Bonus prizes are ugly!

- Lupus “flares” are unpredictable and random
- Hospitalization is common
- Costs to the health system are high
- There is no known cause or cure!

Treating Lupus

- There is no cure for lupus
- Most recent lupus specific drug is 50 years old
- Current treatments have serious side effects
 - chemotherapy drugs
 - steroids
 - immune suppressants
- It takes about 5 years to diagnose lupus
- Treatment is very expensive
 - Numerous specialists are needed
 - Expensive drugs are used
 - Hospitalizations occur

Lupus Society

Mission

- To support advances in research and treatments
- To create public awareness
- To provide education and support to people affected by lupus

Vision

- That early diagnosis and optimal treatment will be available to everyone with lupus
- That the public at large will be aware of lupus
- To ensure community based support networks and services

Programs & Services

- Website with resource library
- Annual Lupus Symposium
 - world renowned experts
- Lupus Research Funding
 - research scholarship
 - clinical support
 - research project funding
- Lupus Lighthouse newsletter
- Education
 - Lupus Lighthouse
 - Fact sheets
 - Information packages, books, videos
 - Lupus Symposium
- Support Network
 - 33 Provincial Contacts
 - 8 Support Groups

1645 West 7th Ave.
Suite 200
Vancouver, B.C. V6J 1S4
Telephone: 604.714.5564
Toll Free: 1-866.585-8787
Email: info@bclupus.org