

## Special Drugs and Procedures:

### Immuno gamma Globulin (IgG) Immunoglobulin Infusion

Immunoglobulin Infusion are given intravenously. This is given to people with serum complement levels that are decreased. A decreased complement level indicates a lupus flare. A decreased level also indicates that your immune system is too busy attacking your own body to fight off outside infections.

### Blood Exchange Procedures:

Plasmapheresis is a process in which the fluid part of the blood, called plasma, is removed from the blood cells. The plasma, which contains the inflammatory antibodies and other immunologically active substances is discarded and replaced with other fluids. The blood is then returned.

### Experimental Treatments:

#### DHEA:

Still in clinical trials.

Genetically designed antibodies, called monoclonal antibodies (MABs)

#### Biologic agents::

LJP394

CD 40

Autologous Stem Cell Transplantation

UVA-1 Phototherapy



#### CFC:

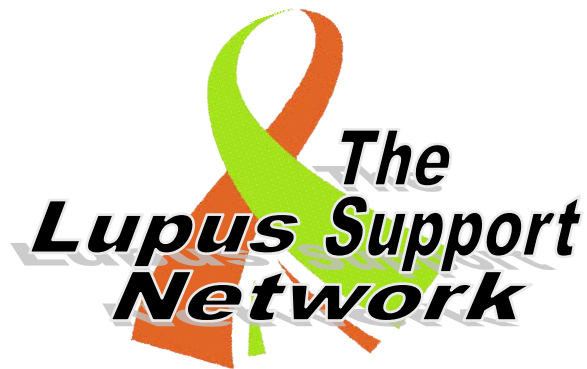
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\*Previously: NW FL Lupus Foundation For more info on how to make a donation please call our office.



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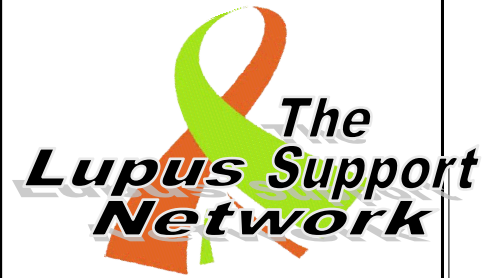
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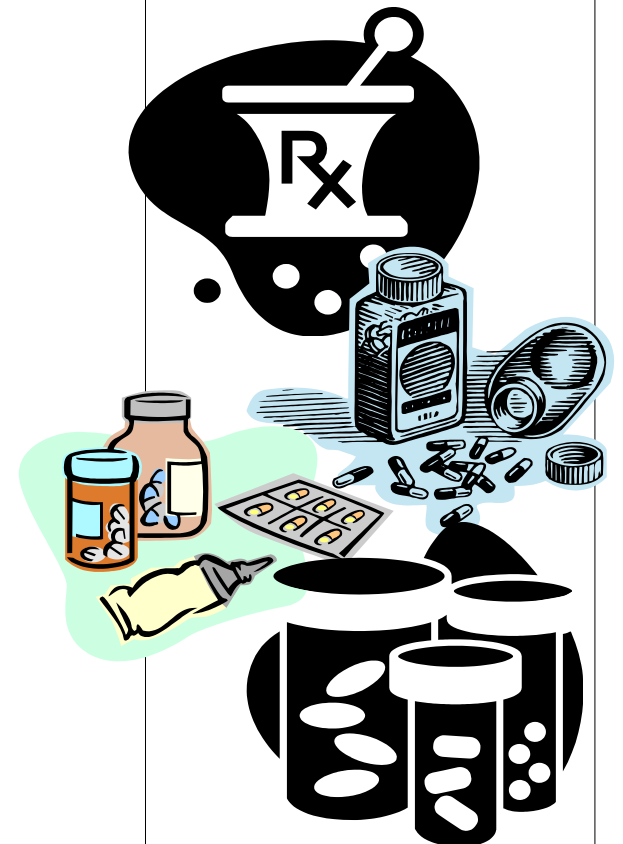
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## Drugs Used in the Treatment of Lupus



## Anti-inflammatory

### NSAIDS

#### (Non-steroidal Anti-Inflammatory Drugs)

For people with joint or chest pain or fever. These drugs decrease inflammation. They may be used alone or in combination with other types of drugs to control pain, swelling, and fever.

**Benefits:** decrease inflammation

#### Brand Names:

- Celecoxib (Celebrex)
- Diclofenac (Cataflam, Voltaren)
- Entolac (Lodine)
- Fenpropfen (Nalfon)
- Flurbiprofen (Ansaid)
- Ibuprofen (Motrin, Advil, Nuprin)
- Ketoprofen (Orudis, Actron)
- Meclofenamate (Meclomen)
- Meloxicam (Mobic)
- Nabumetone (Relafen)
- Naproxen (Naprosyn, Anaprox, Aleve)
- Oxaprozin (Daypro)
- Piroxicam (Feldene)
- Rofecoxib (Vioxx)
- Salicylates (Aspirin, Arthropan)
- Sulindac (Clinoril)
- Tolmetin (Tolectin)

## Anti-malarials

These drugs were originally used to treat malaria, but doctors have found that they also are useful for lupus. Exactly how antimalarials work in lupus is unclear, but scientists think that they may work by suppressing parts of the immune response. Clinical studies have found that continuous treatment with antimalarials may prevent flares from recurring.

#### Brand Names:

- Hydroxychloroquine (Plaquenil)
- Chloroquine (Aralen)
- Quinacrine (Atabrine)

## Corticosteroids

The mainstay of lupus treatment involves the use of corticosteroid hormones. Corticosteroids are related to cortisol, which is a natural anti-inflammatory hormone. They work rapidly by suppressing inflammation. They can be given in creams or ointments for the treatment of skin involvement (for lupus rashes) or by mouth for systemic involvement.

#### Brand Names:

##### Cream/Ointments

- Clobetasol (Temovate)
- Halobetasol (Ultravate)
- Hydrocortisone (Cortef, Cortaid)
- Triamcinolone (Aristocort, Kenalog)
- Betamethasone (Valisone, Dinrosone)
- Fluocinolone (Synalar)
- Fluocinonide (Lidex)

## Corticosteroids (continued)

#### Brand Names:

##### Tablets

- Prednisone (Deltasone)
- Prednisolone (Prelone)
- Methylprednisolone (Medrol)

## Cytotoxic, or Immunosuppressive Drugs

For patients whose kidneys or central nervous systems are affected by lupus, a drug called an immunosuppressive may be used. Immunosuppressives restrain the overactive immune system by blocking the production of some immune cells and curbing the action of others.

#### Brand Names:

- Methotrexate (Rheumatrex)
- Azathioprine (Imuran)
- Cyclophosphamide (Cytoxan)
- Chlorambucil (Leukeran)
- Cyclosporine (Sandimmune, Neoral)
- Mycophenolate mofetil (Cellcept)
- Arave