

Eleven Criteria

The American College of Rheumatology identified a list of 11 criteria for classifying a possible systemic lupus diagnosis.

The presence of at least four of these criteria can potentially lead to a lupus diagnosis.

These criteria are:

1. Malar rash (butterfly rash)
2. Discoid rash
3. Photosensitivity
4. Oral and nasal ulcers
5. Non erosive arthritis
6. Pleuritic or pericarditis
7. Renal disorder
8. Neurologic disorder
9. Hematologic disorder
10. Immunologic disorder; and
11. Positive antinuclear antibody.



A full explanation of the criteria is available at www.rheumatology.org

Early detection and treatment is the key to better health outcomes and can usually lessen the progression and severity of the disease. If you suspect you may have lupus see your doctor for diagnosis, treatment and advice. Your doctor may refer you to an immunologist or rheumatologist for further tests and treatment.

(References: Garvan Institute of Medical Research, Lupus Research Alliance, Molly's Fund Fighting Lupus, Lupus Foundation of America, American College of Immunology)