



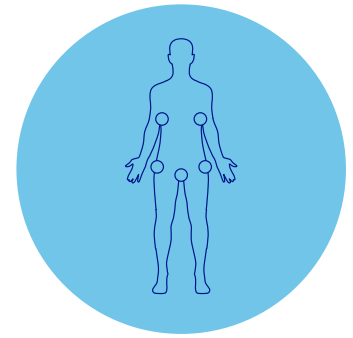
Inspired by **patients**.
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Understanding Hidradenitis Suppurativa (HS)

Hidradenitis suppurativa is a chronic, recurring, painful, and potentially debilitating inflammatory skin disease that can worsen over time.^{1,2}

More Than Skin Deep

Common HS symptoms include **nodules, abscesses, and scarring**. These can occur anywhere hair follicles are found, but usually develop in areas where skin rubs together, like **armpits**, the **groin area**, and the **legs**. HS lesions tend to **come back often**, leading to **tunnels** under the skin and **scarring**.^{1,2,3,4}



Beyond the Physical Symptoms



Because HS is visible to the eye, people living with HS often report feeling uncomfortable in their own skin, and experience a **high frequency of mental health challenges**.⁵



Stigma associated with the disease often **prevents people from participating in everyday activities** like going to work or school, as well as seeking treatment.^{5,6}



of people living with HS **experience flares at least weekly**, characterized by intensified inflammatory symptoms, including pain, discharge, and itching.⁷



HS is often misdiagnosed for acne.⁸ This can result in the disease progressing to more severe HS, particularly for people whose disease is more aggressive.⁸



Diagnosis can take an average of **10 years** following symptom onset with more than **3 misdiagnoses** along the way.⁸

Causes of HS

While the exact cause of HS is not known, a combination of **genetics** and the **activity of proinflammatory cytokines** that result in an inflammatory vicious cycle may contribute to its development.⁹



Prevalence of HS in the United States (U.S.)

98 out of every 100,000 people in the U.S. has been diagnosed with HS.¹⁰

Who is Affected by HS?

- HS currently affect **up to 1%** of the population, although it is often under recognized and misdiagnosed.^{2,8}
- HS can affect anyone, with the highest disease rates in the U.S. reported among **women, especially African American women**.¹⁰
- If you're experiencing symptoms, it's important to find the right dermatologist who has experience diagnosing and treating HS.



While there is **no definitive test to diagnose or cure HS yet**, people experiencing symptoms should speak to their healthcare providers to help examine areas of concern, monitor progression, and discuss family and medical history.

Dermatologists have more options than ever to help control HS and reduce painful symptoms for this community.¹¹

UCB's Commitment in HS

UCB aspires to make a difference in people's lives by addressing persistent unmet needs in immunologic disease populations.¹² We believe early diagnosis and treatment are important to prevent the debilitating consequences of HS and improve the quality of life of people living with this disease. Therefore, we have partnered with a variety of patient advocacy networks to raise awareness of the impact of HS, while working to close gaps in knowledge, and care, of HS through our scientific innovation.

Learn more about how we are furthering our mission to meet the needs of people living with chronic inflammatory diseases at UCB-USA.com.

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