



# Scleroderma Association of B.C.

Scleroderma is a hardening of the skin and connective tissue.  
Woman are 5-6 times more likely to have scleroderma than men.  
Common age of diagnoses is between 30-50 years.  
Approximately 22,000 Canadians have this disease with approximately 2,300 patients in B.C.

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[www.sclerodermabc.ca](http://www.sclerodermabc.ca)

## Types

**Limited:** Thickening of the skin less widespread and develops over time.

**Diffuse:** Progresses faster and involves more skin. It also often involves internal organs.

## Causes

Scleroderma is an autoimmune disease. Researchers believe it is an overproduction of collagen.

## Impact on Patient's Quality of Life

Scleroderma affects each patient differently. Its severity can range from mild to life threatening.

## Treatment and Care of Condition

There is no cure. Medications are prescribed to help prevent further disease progression.

