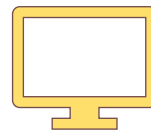




Scleroderma Association of B.C.

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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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.

