

LYMPHEDEMA

Lymphedema

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Lymphedema, also known as lymphoedema and lymphatic edema, is a condition of localized swelling caused by a compromised lymphatic system. The lymphatic system functions as a critical portion of the body's immune system and returns interstitial fluid to the bloodstream.

Lymphedema is most frequently a complication of cancer treatment or parasitic infections, but it can also be seen in a number of genetic disorders. Tissues with lymphedema are at high risk of infection because the lymphatic system has been compromised.

Though incurable and progressive, a number of treatments may improve symptoms. This commonly includes compression therapy, good skin care, exercise, and manual lymphatic drainage (MLD), which together are known as combined decongestive therapy. Diuretics are not useful.

Kathy Bates

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Kathleen Doyle Bates (born June 28, 1948) is an American actress. Her work spans over five decades, and her accolades include an Academy Award, two Primetime Emmy Awards, and two Golden Globe Awards, in addition to nominations for a Tony Award and two British Academy Film Awards.

Born in Memphis, Tennessee, Bates studied theater at Southern Methodist University before moving to New York City to pursue an acting career. She landed minor stage roles before being cast in her first on-screen role in *Taking Off* (1971). Her first Off-Broadway stage role was in the play *Vanities* (1976). She garnered a nomination for the Tony Award Best Lead Actress in a Play for the Marsha Norman play *'night, Mother* (1983), and won an Obie Award for her role in Terrence McNally's *Frankie and Johnny in the Clair de Lune* (1988).

Bates won the Academy Award for Best Actress for portraying Annie Wilkes in the psychological thriller *Misery* (1990). She was also nominated in Best Supporting Actress for her performances as a tough political operative in *Primary Colors* (1998), a free spirited neighbor in *About Schmidt* (2002), and the mother of a bombing suspect in *Richard Jewell* (2019). Bates' other notable roles were in *Fried Green Tomatoes* (1991), *Dolores Claiborne* (1995), *Titanic* (1997), *The Waterboy* (1998), *Revolutionary Road* (2008), *The Blind Side* (2009), *Midnight in Paris* (2011), and *Are You There God? It's Me, Margaret.* (2023).

On television, Bates received Emmy Awards for her performances in *Two and a Half Men* (2012) and for her portrayal of Delphine LaLaurie in *American Horror Story: Coven* (2013). She was also Emmy-nominated for *The Late Shift* (1996), *Annie* (1999), *Six Feet Under* (2003), *Warm Springs* (2005), *Harry's Law* (2011–2012), *American Horror Story: Freak Show* (2014), and *American Horror Story: Hotel* (2015). Since 2024, she portrays the titular lead in the CBS series *Matlock*.

Outside of acting, Bates is also known for her advocacy. After undergoing a double mastectomy and developing lymphedema, Bates became a spokesperson for the Lymphatic Education & Research Network (LE&RN).

Milroy's disease

Milroy's disease (MD) is a familial disease characterized by lymphedema, commonly in the legs, caused by congenital abnormalities in the lymphatic system

Milroy's disease (MD) is a familial disease characterized by lymphedema, commonly in the legs, caused by congenital abnormalities in the lymphatic system. Disruption of the normal drainage of lymph leads to fluid accumulation and hypertrophy of soft tissues.

It was named by Sir William Osler for William Milroy, a Canadian physician, who described a case in 1892, though it was first described by Rudolf Virchow in 1863.

Lipedema

similarly include lipohypertrophy, chronic venous insufficiency, and lymphedema. It is commonly misdiagnosed. The condition is resistant to weight loss

Lipedema is a condition that is almost exclusively found in women and results in enlargement of both legs due to deposits of fat under the skin. Women of any weight may be affected and the fat is resistant to traditional weight-loss methods. There is no cure and typically it gets worse over time, pain may be present, and people bruise more easily. Over time mobility may be reduced, and due to reduced quality of life, people often experience depression. In severe cases the trunk and upper body may be involved.

The cause is unknown but is believed to involve genetic and hormonal factors that regulate the lymphatic system, thus blocking the return of fats to the bloodstream. It often runs in families. Other conditions that may present similarly include lipohypertrophy, chronic venous insufficiency, and lymphedema. It is commonly misdiagnosed.

The condition is resistant to weight loss methods; however, unlike other fat it is not associated with an increased risk of diabetes or cardiovascular disease. Physiotherapy may help to preserve mobility. Exercise may help with overall fitness but will not prevent the progression of the disease. Compression stockings can help with pain and make walking easier. Regularly moisturising with emollients protects the skin and prevents it from drying out. Liposuction can help if the symptoms are particularly severe. While surgery can remove fat tissue it can also damage lymphatic vessels. Treatment does not typically result in complete resolution. It is estimated to affect up to 11% of women. Onset is typically during puberty, pregnancy, or menopause.

Edema

thrombosis, infections, kwashiorkor, angioedema, certain medications, and lymphedema. It may also occur in immobile patients (stroke, spinal cord injury, aging)

Edema (American English), also spelled oedema (Commonwealth English), and also known as fluid retention, swelling, dropsy and hydropsy, is the build-up of fluid in the body's tissue. Most commonly, the legs or arms are affected. Symptoms may include skin that feels tight, the area feeling heavy, and joint stiffness. Other symptoms depend on the underlying cause.

Causes may include venous insufficiency, heart failure, kidney problems, low protein levels, liver problems, deep vein thrombosis, infections, kwashiorkor, angioedema, certain medications, and lymphedema. It may also occur in immobile patients (stroke, spinal cord injury, aging), or with temporary immobility such as prolonged sitting or standing, and during menstruation or pregnancy. The condition is more concerning if it starts suddenly, or pain or shortness of breath is present.

Treatment depends on the underlying cause. If the underlying mechanism involves sodium retention, decreased salt intake and a diuretic may be used. Elevating the legs and support stockings may be useful for edema of the legs. Older people are more commonly affected. The word is from the Ancient Greek οἰδήμα meaning 'swelling'.

Lymph node

usually of undeveloped or absent lymph nodes, and is known as primary lymphedema. Lymphedema most commonly arises in the arms or legs, but can also occur in

A lymph node, or lymph gland, is a kidney-shaped organ of the lymphatic system and the adaptive immune system. A large number of lymph nodes are linked throughout the body by the lymphatic vessels. They are major sites of lymphocytes that include B and T cells. Lymph nodes are important for the proper functioning of the immune system, acting as filters for foreign particles including cancer cells, but have no detoxification function.

In the lymphatic system, a lymph node is a secondary lymphoid organ. A lymph node is enclosed in a fibrous capsule and is made up of an outer cortex and an inner medulla.

Lymph nodes become inflamed or enlarged in various diseases, which may range from trivial throat infections to life-threatening cancers. The condition of lymph nodes is very important in cancer staging, which decides the treatment to be used and determines the prognosis. Lymphadenopathy refers to glands that are enlarged or swollen. When inflamed or enlarged, lymph nodes can be firm or tender.

Chronic progressive lymphedema

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Chronic progressive lymphedema (CPL) is a disease of some breeds of draft horse, whereby the lower legs becomes progressively more swollen. There is no cure; the aim of treatment is to manage the signs and slow progression of the disease. The cause of CPL is not known, although it is suspected that a genetic disorder of elastin metabolism prevents the lymphatic vessels from functioning properly, leading to edema of the lower limbs. CPL resembles the human disease elephantiasis verrucosa nostra.

Elephantiasis

skin and subcutaneous tissues, due to obstruction of lymphatic vessels (lymphedema). It may affect the genitalia. The term elephantiasis is often used in

Elephantiasis, often incorrectly called elephantitis, is the enlargement and hardening of limbs or body parts due to tissue swelling (edema). It is characterised by edema, hypertrophy, and fibrosis of skin and subcutaneous tissues, due to obstruction of lymphatic vessels (lymphedema). It may affect the genitalia. The term elephantiasis is often used in reference to symptoms caused by parasitic worm infections, but may refer to a variety of diseases that swell parts of the subject's body to exceptionally massive proportions.

Primary lymphedema

of onset: congenital lymphedema, lymphedema praecox, and lymphedema tarda. Congenital lymphedema presents at birth. Lymphedema praecox presents from

Primary lymphedema is a form of lymphedema which is not directly attributable to another medical condition.

It can be divided into three forms, depending upon age of onset: congenital lymphedema, lymphedema praecox, and lymphedema tarda.

Congenital lymphedema presents at birth. Lymphedema praecox presents from ages 1 to 35. This type of lymphedema accounts for 77–94% of all cases of primary lymphedema. Lymphedema tarda presents after age 35. This type of lymphedema usually develops as a result of a developmental abnormality being precipitated by some insult such as trauma, illness, or physical immobility. Compared to secondary lymphedema, primary lymphedema is more likely to involve the face, conjunctiva, and genitalia in association with any limbs involved.

It can be familial.

Yellow nail syndrome

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Yellow nail syndrome, also known as "primary lymphedema associated with yellow nails and pleural effusion", is a very rare medical syndrome that includes pleural effusions, lymphedema (due to under development of the lymphatic vessels) and yellow dystrophic nails. Approximately 40% will also have bronchiectasis. It is also associated with chronic sinusitis and persistent coughing. It usually affects adults.

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