



The Encyclopedia of Autoimmune Disease (Facts on File Library of Health & Living)

By Dana K Cassell

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A comprehensive A-to-Z reference covering the human immune system and what happens when it malfunctions, including details on a wide range of autoimmune diseases, the latest information on treatments and suggestions on how to cope with them.

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- Sales Rank: #555646 in Books
- Brand: Brand: Facts on File
- Published on: 2003-01-01
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 9.48" h x 1.13" w x 7.64" l, 2.03 pounds
- Binding: Hardcover
- 364 pages

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Editorial Review

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The newest addition to the Facts On File Library of Health and Living series is *The Encyclopedia of Autoimmune Diseases*. Like others in the series, it is a stand-alone reference. With "nearly 100 autoimmune diseases . . . affect[ing] up to 22 million Americans--8 percent of the population," this book is appropriate for both general readers and professionals. More than 300 A-Z entries, voluminous appendixes, and bibliography will guide readers in their search for information.

Entries cover terminology, key physicians and researchers, and specific diseases. Specific disease articles contain a historical and general introduction with subsections on causes, clinical features, diagnosis, complications, treatment (drug and nondrug), and other readings. A separate entry on research on the disease follows, where appropriate. Articles on ethnic, age-related, and other specific factors are included (for example, *African Americans with autoimmune diseases*, *Environment and autoimmune disease*). Familiar conditions such as allergies, AIDS, diabetes, and hepatitis are found along with less well-known diseases such as Evans' syndrome or ocular cicatricial pemphigoid (OCP).

Appendixes list autoimmune diseases, diseases listed by target organs, organizations and help groups, patient research registries, and the National Institutes of Health (NIH) investment in research on autoimmune diseases, among others topics. An extensive bibliography and index round out the encyclopedia.

Highly recommended for the academic and public library collection, this book gives unbiased medical information for the general public as well as the family and friends of a disease sufferer. *RBB*

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Jessica Rodriguez:

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