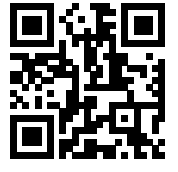


# 9

## Things Vasculitis Patients Want their Rheumatologists to Know



- 1** Please educate us. Things that are common knowledge to you, might be unfamiliar to us. Tell us about:
  - Inform us of the possible side effects of treatment with high dose glucocorticoids.
  - Tell us what signs and symptoms we should report to you immediately.
  - Help us understand which symptoms might indicate that our vasculitis is currently active, and which are the results of past, irreversible damage.
- 2** The extreme fatigue we experience is impossible to describe and impacts every aspect of our lives.
- 3** On paper we may look good, but we are still experiencing life altering symptoms.
- 4** Every symptom we have is not necessarily related to our vasculitis.
- 5** We are frightened and overwhelmed. We gain hope when you are willing to help us find answers.
- 6** The pain is real and can be debilitating. Pain relievers are often not very effective.
- 7** We need your help coordinating care with our other healthcare providers.
- 8** If our form of vasculitis is systemic, please tell us which body systems might be affected and how we should monitor for potential damage.
- 9** Ensure your patients are connected with the Vasculitis Foundation for education and support resources.

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