

WEGENER'S GRANULOMATOSIS

What is Wegener's Granulomatosis?

Wegener's Granulomatosis is a form of vasculitis, (inflammation of blood vessels), which damages important organs of the body by destroying normal tissue and limiting blood flow.

Wegener's affects mainly the respiratory tract and kidneys.

Wegener's is an uncommon disease, which can occur at any age.

What Causes Wegener's?

There is no known cause

What are the Symptoms?

1. Cold symptoms that fail to respond to treatment
2. Shortness of breath
3. Cough
4. Rash/skin sores
5. Fever
6. Fatigue/lack of energy
7. Night sweats
8. Weight loss
9. Loss of appetite
10. Joint pain
11. Blood in urine
12. Nasal ulcers

How is it Diagnosed?

1. Chest x-ray
2. Blood test
3. Biopsy
4. Some tests maybe ordered to rule out another diagnosis

What is the Treatment?

1. Anti-inflammatory Medication/Steroids (Prednisone)
2. Immunosuppressive Medications (Cytosan, Methotrexate, Imuran)
3. Use of antibiotics to help prevent infections
4. Follow up regularly with physician

