



Lupus and Fatigue

by NEWLIFEOUTLOOK TEAM

The Wolf and the Sheep

The immunosuppressive drugs you are on should help you to feel less fatigued but the side effects of other drugs may allow fatigue to persist. Find out when you're capable of performing energizing activities by creating a daily checklist to find out when you're at your best. During these times, you should engage in exercise, which should eventually help to improve the fatigue that you experience. If you still experience fatigue, you might want to consider going to a sleep clinic to see if you're having any issues sleeping during the night. It could be your mattress or it could be that the drugs you were prescribed wear off during the night, causing your symptoms to increase.



Some Conditions with fatigue as a symptom

Medications	Fibromyalgia
Pain	Lupus
Sleep Disorders	Multiple Sclerosis
Substance Abuse	Anemia
Anxiety	Asthma
Arthritis	Depression
Cancer	Parkinson's Disease
Diabetes	COPD
Chronic Fatigue Syndrome	

Tired	Worn-Out
Weak	Heavy
Exhausted	Slow
Weary	Lethargic

Fatigue is:

- Lack of Motivation
- Lack of Energy
- Wearing Out Easily
- Real

Fatigue isn't:

- Lack of Passion
- Laziness
- Just Being Tired
- Fake or Imagined

Fatigue Can Affect:

- Your mood
- Physical function
- Work performance
- Social interaction
- Family care
- Cognitive performance
- School work
- Community activities
- Sense of self
- Troust appetite



The **Fatigue Severity Scale (FSS)** is a self-reported questionnaire used to measure your fatigue. It consists of ...

NINE
Questions,
each rated on a scale of
1-7

To score the Fatigue Severity Scale either **add all items** together (this will range from 7-63) or **find the mean** by adding your items together and dividing by 9 (this will range from 1-9).

In either case, the **higher the number** you calculate is, the **more fatigued** you are.

Sanuinity & Quality of Sleep

- ✓ Have a regular bed time and wake up time
- ✓ Do your best just to sleep
- ✓ Do quiet activities if you're not sleepy
- ✓ Room should be dark and quiet

Proper Nutrition

- ✓ Get daily value of vitamins and minerals
- ✓ Find out about proper nutrition at choosemyplate.gov
- ✓ Contact your doctor or a nutritionist/dietitian so you can get the most out of what you eat.

Regular Exercise

- ✓ Choose an enjoyable exercise
- ✓ Do what you can and then do along a little bit more each day
- ✓ Try tai chi and yoga to combine stretching, breathing, and calming exercises

Relaxation

- ✓ Avoid stress or stressful situations
- ✓ Do what you're relaxing: read a book, do yoga, sit outside, listen to music, etc.

Balance Work and Personal Life

- ✓ Spend your time off work with family, friends, or doing preferred activities
- ✓ Limit the amount of work you bring home with you

Avoid Drug Use

- ✓ Avoid stimulants including coffee, nicotine, methamphetamine, cocaine
- ✓ Avoid sedatives

Resources:

1. Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety
<http://www.ccohs.ca/>
2. National Cancer Institute
<http://www.cancer.gov/>
3. National Library of Medicine
<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/>
4. National Parkinson's Foundation
<http://www.parkinson.org/>
5. United States Department of Agriculture