

Student Essay on Autoimmune Diseases

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Essay

Autoimmune Diseases

An autoimmune disease is defined as any disease in which your body's immune system attacks your body. Basically an autoimmune disease is a self destruction process.

These are the worst types of diseases to have mostly because of the fact that you are killing yourself. There are many different autoimmune diseases, the two most famous ones you may know about are cancer and AIDS. But there are many others that you may not know about including, AIDS, Addisons Disease, Allergies, Anemia, Ankylosing, apondylitis, Arthritis, Blood Diseases, Celiac Disease, Chronic Fatigue, Crohns Disease, Dermatomyositis, Diabetes, and Epstein-Barr Virus. Keep in mind that this is not even half of all autoimmune diseases.

Cancer is most likely the most occurring serious autoimmune disease (for the purpose of this paper we wont consider allergies as being "serious"). My research has indicated that over 45% of Americans will get cancer in the next 30 years. Treatments today are much better and more reliable than yesterday's. Now chemotherapy isn't as traumatic for the patient as it was in years past. Cancer is caused my mutations of cells which cause them to grow and divide more rapidly than they are supposed to. Most forms of cancer can be treated if caught early enough in its growth.

AIDS is another infamous autoimmune disease, it is a sexually transmitted disease that is viral. The AIDS virus attacks your immune system it self, making it very hard to fight off. Specifcally the virus attacks suppressor cells, so that once your immune system gets going it wont stop, the macrophages in your body will continue to destroy things in your body even if they are healthy, uninfected cells. There are a few treatments to this disease, they have what they call AZT. AZT is a jumble of different medicines used to help keep the AIDS virus in the lysogenic cycle and harmless in the HIV stage.

These medicines are very costly and not all that effective. Everyone who has ever had AIDS has died from it.