

ABOUT ULCERATIVE COLITIS

Ulcerative colitis (UC) is a chronic inflammatory disorder affecting the large intestine (colon) and rectum. It is a form of **inflammatory bowel disease** (IBD) characterized by inflammatory changes limited to the innermost lining of the **colon**.¹

SIGNS & SYMPTOMS

UC symptoms typically develop over time¹ and occur in periods called (or referred to as) flare-ups.^{2a} The inflammation of the colon can result in diarrhea that is often bloody and can be associated with abdominal discomfort.^{2b}

Some patients with UC can experience:^{3a}

Diarrhea with blood and mucus

Abdominal pain and cramping

Rectal pain and bleeding

Urgent need to move bowels

Fever

Difficulty when passing stool

CAUSES OF UC

The exact cause of UC is unknown.^{2c} Researchers and physicians believe it may be linked to an abnormal immune response in a genetically susceptible host resulting from exposure to bacteria or viruses.^{2d}

Possible risk factors for UC include:^{2e, 4}



Genetics



Environmental factors



Age

Though diet and stress do not cause UC, these factors may have an effect on symptoms.⁵

PREVALENCE & PATIENTS



5 million people worldwide live with IBD⁴

907,000 people in the U.S. live with UC^{3b}

- UC can occur at any stage of life, although it is most often diagnosed **before the age of 30**.^{3c}
- **Men and women** have similar likelihood of being affected.⁴

► Beyond physical symptoms, UC can have an effect on:⁶



Work



Family



Social activities

TREATMENT OPTIONS

► UC treatment is aimed at achieving and maintaining remission.^{5b} Approved medication classes include:^{3d}

- Aminosalicylates
- Corticosteroids
- Immunomodulators
- Biologics

- Maintaining remission can be difficult for many patients.⁷
- In some cases, surgery to remove the colon, colectomy, is necessary.^{3e}

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 - a) Page 6/ Table 1/ Columns 1-2
 - b) Page 10/ Existing Cases/ Lines 1-5
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