

Understanding pemphigus vulgaris

Pemphigus vulgaris (PV) is a rare autoimmune condition which can be life-threatening if left untreated. It causes painful blisters on the skin and mucous membranes.¹



~3 in 100,000
are affected globally.²



~60 years
with no new treatment options.
There's currently **no cure**.

Treatment to date has largely included the use of steroids (sometimes referred to as corticosteroids), long-term use of which can cause significant side effects, including:¹



Increased risk of infection



Thinning of the bones



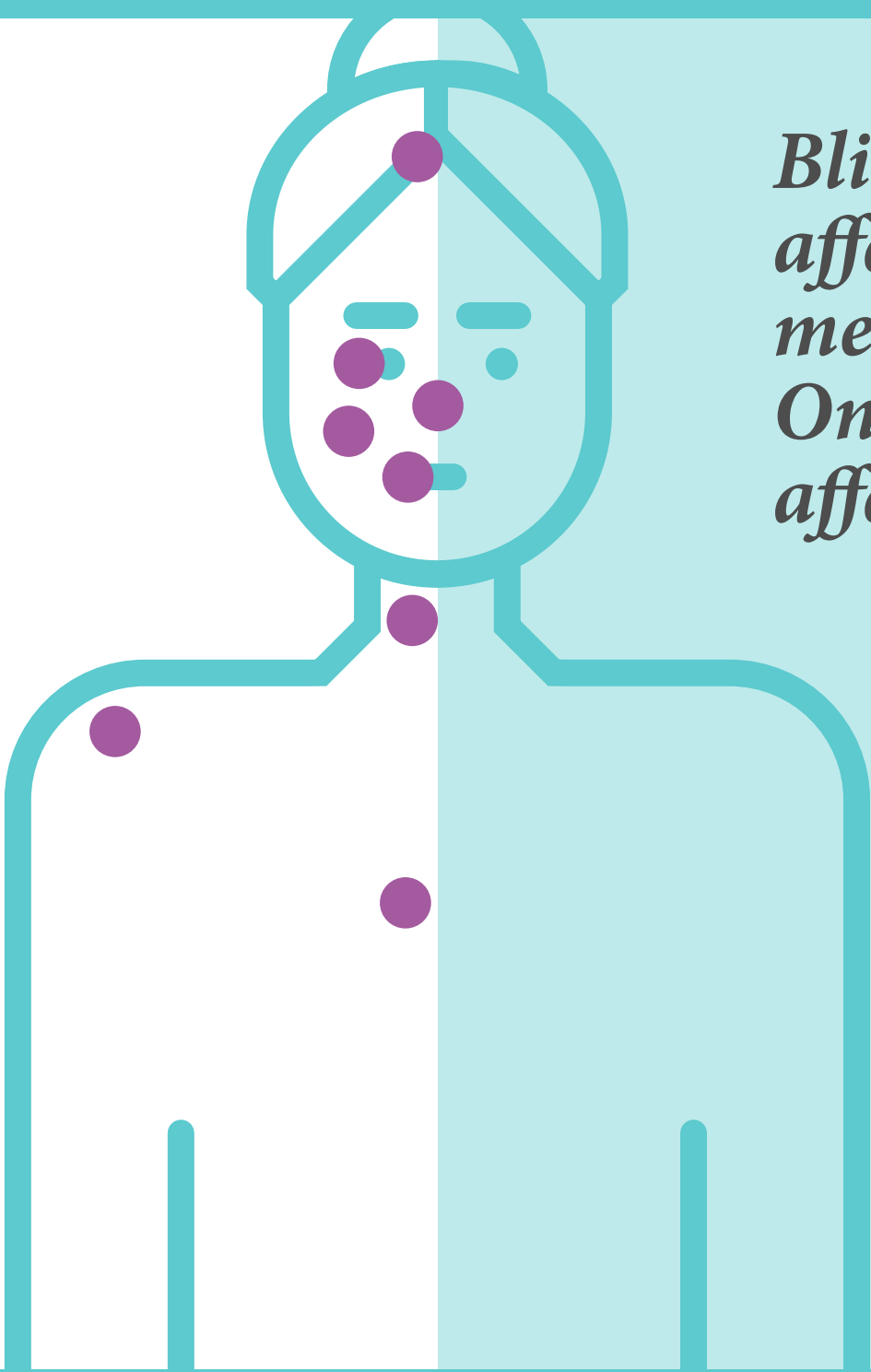
Diabetes



Stomach ulcers

PV occurs when the immune system produces antibodies that mistakenly target healthy skin and mucous membranes, causing blisters to form.¹

In PV blisters burst easily leaving behind painful sores that can be slow to heal.^{1,3}



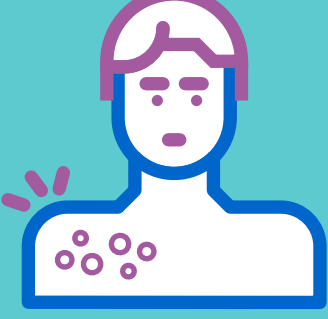
Blisters most commonly affect skin and the mucosal membranes in the mouth. On skin, the most commonly affected areas are the:⁴

- Chest
- Face
- Scalp
- Shoulder blades

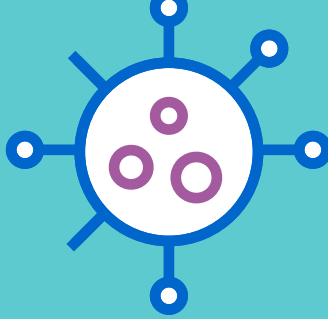
Other mucosal membranes affected include the:^{1,5,6}

- Eyelids
- Nose
- Throat
- Genitals


...and can lead to....




Raw unhealed skin
causing severe pain



Increased risk of serious infections,
including blood poisoning, caused by broken unhealed skin, which could lead to hospitalisation and can be life-threatening^{3,6}




Malnutrition
caused by blisters in the mouth interfering with eating and drinking; and **fluid loss** caused by damage to the skin barrier^{4,7}

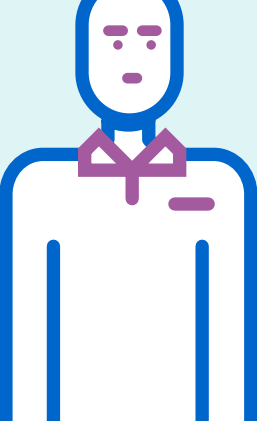


Reduced quality of life,
where blisters and sores cause increased absence from work, social withdrawal, anxiety and depression⁴

While the cause is unknown, and it can affect people of any age or gender...



People with Mediterranean, Middle Eastern, Indian or Jewish heritage have a higher risk of developing PV^{1,3,8}



Most people are diagnosed between the ages of 50–60, although this varies globally^{3,5}

Early diagnosis and treatment is key in reducing the impact of symptoms. To learn more, contact your doctor.

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