



Steroids (Corticosteroids)



Overview

These are strong medications. They're similar to natural hormones your body makes when you're sick or injured. They reduce inflammation. They also lower your immune system's response. This helps us treat certain conditions.

What do we use them for?

What do we use them for? Steroids are commonly used to treat arthritis and asthma. We use them for lupus, multiple sclerosis and other autoimmune diseases. We use them for skin conditions and some types of cancer. And if you have an organ transplant, steroids help keep your body from rejecting the new tissue.

Dangers

Because steroids affect your immune system, they raise your risk for infection. They can have other side effects, too. So we use them only when needed. We also like to use them for as short a time as possible. When you take a steroid, follow all of the instructions.

Conclusion

To learn more about steroids and how to use them safely, talk to your doctor.

