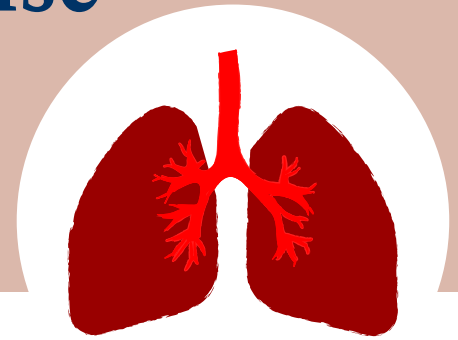


# Scleroderma Patients Face Serious Lung Disease

**Systemic sclerosis (SSc), or scleroderma,** is a disfiguring, disabling and potentially fatal rare autoimmune disease that causes scarring – or fibrosis – of various organs, including the lungs.<sup>1-3</sup>



ILD is the leading cause of mortality in SSc, accounting for almost **35%** of SSc-related deaths<sup>4</sup>



**13-16%** of patients with SSc will experience severe symptoms of lung fibrosis<sup>5-7</sup>

## ILD IS THE LEADING CAUSE OF DEATH AMONG PEOPLE WITH SSC

Some people with SSc-ILD have symptoms that can affect their everyday life:



**7 in 10** report some shortness of breath<sup>8</sup>



**6 in 10** report difficulty climbing stairs or walking<sup>8</sup>



**Patients who have scleroderma and are experiencing symptoms of SSc-ILD like fatigue, shortness of breath, a dry, persistent cough or tightness of the chest, should talk to their doctor right away.**

**References:**

1. Denton CP, Khanna D. Systemic sclerosis. *Lancet* 2017;390:1085–1699.
2. Cottin V, et al. Interstitial lung disease associated with systemic sclerosis (SSc-ILD). *Respir Res* 2019;20:13.
3. Kowal-Bielecka O, et al. Update of EULAR recommendations for the treatment of systemic sclerosis. *Ann Rheum Dis* 2017;76:1327–1339.
4. Tyndall A, et al. Causes and risk factors for death in systemic sclerosis: a study from the EULAR Scleroderma Trials and Research (EUSTAR) database. *Ann Rheum Dis* 2010;69:1809–1815.
5. Solomon JJ, et al. Scleroderma lung disease. *Eur Respir Rev* 2013;22:6–19.
6. Steen V, et al. Severe restrictive lung disease in systemic sclerosis. *Arthritis Rheum* 1994;66(60):1625–1635.
7. Steen V and Medsger T. Severe organ involvement in systemic sclerosis with diffuse scleroderma. *Arthritis Rheum* 2000;43(11):2437–2444.
8. Willems LM, et al. Frequency and impact of disease symptoms experienced by patients with systemic sclerosis from five European countries. *Clin Exp Rheumatol* 2014;32:5–88–93.