



## **LOW WHITE BLOOD CELL COUNT**

A low white blood cell count, or leucopenia, is a decrease in disease-fighting cells (leukocytes) circulating in your blood.

### **CAUSES**

- Viral infections that disrupt bone marrow function.
- Congenital disorders characterized by diminished bone marrow function.
- Cancer or other diseases that damage bone marrow.
- Autoimmune disorders that destroy white blood cells or bone marrow cells.
- Overwhelming infections that use up white blood cells faster than they can be produced.
- Drugs that destroy white blood cells or damage bone marrow.

### **SPECIFIC CAUSES OF LOW WHITE BLOOD CELL COUNT INCLUDE:**

Allergy, especially severe allergic reactions  
Aplastic anemia  
Drugs, such as antibiotics, diuretics and prednisone  
HIV/AIDS  
Histoplasmosis  
Hypersplenism, a premature destruction of blood cells by the spleen  
Hyperthyroidism (Overactive thyroid)  
Infectious diseases  
Kostmann's syndrome, a congenital disorder involving low neutrophil production  
Leukemia  
Lupus  
Myelodysplastic syndromes  
Myelofibrosis  
Myelokathexis, a congenital disorder involving failure of neutrophils to enter the bloodstream  
Other autoimmune disorders  
Other congenital disorders  
Parasitic diseases  
Radiation therapy  
Rheumatoid arthritis  
Vitamin deficiencies