



**Imunodeficiência** ocorre quando o corpo não tem o suficiente de certos tipos de células imunes ou quando essas células não funcionam adequadamente. O que acontece, então, é que a pessoa fica mais vulnerável a infecções. A imunodeficiência pode ser primária (genética) ou secundária (devido a outros quadros clínicos). A imunodeficiência pode ser causada por

- **Medicações:** esteroides, medicamentos quimioterápicos, outros medicamentos que suprimem o sistema imunológico
- **Doenças:** diabetes, doença renal, doença hepática
- **Infecção:** HIV, que pode levar à AIDS
- **Outros quadros clínicos:** má nutrição, cirurgia, traumatismo, extremos de idade (recém-nascidos e idosos)

**Doença autoimune** ocorre quando o sistema imunológico apresenta uma resposta exagerada contra as próprias células e tecidos do corpo. Lúpus, esclerose múltipla, artrite reumatoide e doença celíaca são tipos de doenças autoimunes.

## Referências

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Haynes BF, Soderberg KA, Fauci AS. Introduction to the immune system. In: Longo DL, Fauci AS, Kasper DL, et al, eds. *Harrison's Principles of Internal Medicine.* 18th ed. New York, NY:McGraw-Hill; 2012:2650-2685.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases  
[www.niaid.nih.gov/topics/immunesystem/pages/features.aspx](http://www.niaid.nih.gov/topics/immunesystem/pages/features.aspx)
- National Library of Medicine  
[www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/ency/article/000818.htm](http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/ency/article/000818.htm)

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