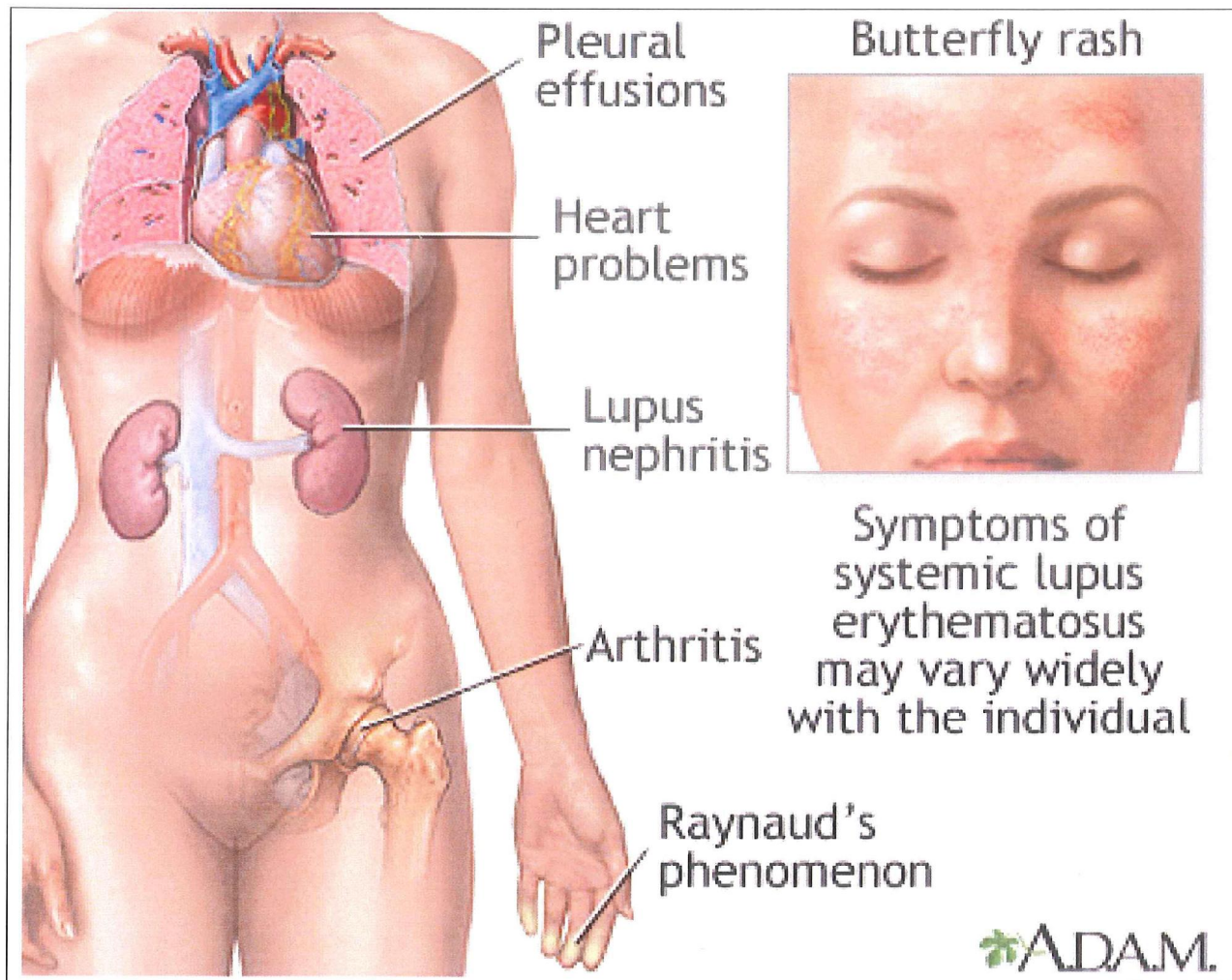


Systemic Lupus Erythematosus



Diagnostic Criteria for Lupus

- Butterfly rash: a reddish eruption across the nose and cheekbones
- Discoid lesions: reddish, raised, disk-shaped **patches** on the body
- Photosensitivity of the skin: a red rash that results from sun exposure
- Oral **ulcers**: sores in the mouth or nose that are usually painless but can be blister-like
- **Arthritis**: inflammation characterized by tenderness and swelling in two or more **peripheral** joints
- Chest/heart problems: **breathing difficulty** or **chest pain**, caused by inflammation of the lining of the chest cavity or heart, respectively
- Neurological disorders: sudden onset of **seizures** or **psychosis**
- Kidney disorders: kidney failure
- Blood cell disturbances: **hemolytic anemia** (a deficiency in red blood cells, resulting from their abnormal destruction) or leukopenia (an excessively low white blood cell count)
- Immunologic disruption: a dysfunctional immune system's attack on healthy cell tissue
- Antinuclear antibodies (ANA): antibodies that battle cell nuclei