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Grey House Publishing Announces the First Edition of *Autoimmune Diseases Handbook & Resource Guide*

Grey House Publishing is pleased to announce *Autoimmune Diseases Handbook & Resource Guide*—the third volume in a new health series that supports our long-standing consumer health titles on such topics as mental health, older Americans, chronic illness, pediatric disorders, people with disabilities, and learning disabilities. This title follows *Dementia Handbook & Resource Guide* and *Cardiovascular Disease Handbook & Resource Guide*.

This comprehensive work comes at a time when more than 24 million people in the U.S. are affected by one of at least 80 types of autoimmune diseases. Our immune system is a complex network of cells and proteins that defends our body against infection. When something in that network reacts in the wrong way, or overreacts, to a signal in the body, it causes our body to defend something that doesn't need defending, basically attacking itself. Joints become inflamed, skin changes texture, and life-sustaining hormones think they are not needed. There are more than 80 different autoimmune diseases, affecting every part of the body. Because many of these disease symptoms are the same as other diseases, diagnosing an autoimmune disease can be a long and difficult process.

Autoimmune Diseases Handbook & Resource Guide combines valuable, easy-to-understand educational information for patients and their families, with national and state statistics and discussions about prevention, treatment and outcomes. It offers resources on 21 specific types of autoimmune disease, including Celiac, Diabetes Type 1, Endometriosis, Fibromyalgia, Lupus, Lyme Disease, Rheumatoid Arthritis, Scleroderma, and more, with notes on disease subtypes. This new volume is arranged in the following sections:

Section One: Studies & Statistics About Autoimmune Diseases

This robust, colorful section of 278 pages includes detailed reports, fact sheets, graphs and statistics from a number of sources, including the Centers for Disease Control, the National

Institutes of Health, associations and foundations. It begins with general information about why autoimmune disease is on the rise, and how environmental factors play a role.

The wealth of material that follows is organized by specific disease — 17 of them, from Crohn’s to Vasculitis. Most reports included follow a similar format— offering easy-to-understand facts about prevalence, cause, and treatment supported by photos and colorful graphs and charts. Sprinkled throughout are more detailed research articles, such as “Facts and myths pertaining to fibromyalgia,” “Environmental factors in autoimmune diseases and their role in multiple sclerosis,” and “Inflammatory bowel disease amid the COVID-19 pandemic.” These articles provide valuable information for those with autoimmune diseases, their community, and the medical professional network.

Section Two: Types of Autoimmune Diseases

This section includes 21 chapters, each covering a specific autoimmune disease from Addison’s Disease to Vasculitis, and starting with a clear, concise description of the disease profiled. Following the description is a variety of resources for patients, their families, and caregivers, including Agencies & Associations, Libraries & Resource Centers, Foundations & Research Centers, Support Groups & Hotlines, Journals, and Digital Resources.

Section Three: Medication List and Indexes

- **Medications** includes lists of drugs by disorder, both generic and brand names.
- **Entry Index** lists all directory entries alphabetically.
- **Geographic Index** organizes listings alphabetically by state.

Two Free Years of Online Access

In addition to the print directory, *Autoimmune Diseases Handbook & Resource Guide* includes two years of free online access to G.O.L.D., Grey House OnLine Databases. This gives your patrons immediate access to the most valuable in-depth information on the many causes of these conditions, early warning signs, diagnosis, treatment options, advice for caretakers, preventative therapy, and support. The online database also offers easy-to-use keyword searches, organization type and subject searches, hotlinks to web sites and emails, and so much more. Call 800-562-2139 for a free trial or visit <http://gold.greyhouse.com> for more information.

The *Autoimmune Diseases Handbook & Resource Guide* is a necessary reference for public and academic libraries, as well as health care and consumer health collections, providing information crucial to sufferers of autoimmune disease, their broader support network, caseworkers, social workers, and other health care providers.

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