Scene #2 - Lupus Is Difficult to Diagnose

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Scene 2 - Lupus Is Difficult to Diagnose

Slide A
Lisa has been feeling as though she has had the flu off and on for several months now. But so far she has not found a doctor who can diagnose what is wrong with her. She hopes this doctor can explain her symptoms.

Slide B
Lupus may behave like other diseases, making it difficult to diagnose quickly and easily. It is often misdiagnosed, or not diagnosed at all. For example, a person may complain of extreme fatigue, memory problems, or joint and muscle pain.
Scene 2 - Lupus Is Difficult to Diagnose

Slide C
But in lupus, these symptoms rarely show up in the usual X-rays or blood tests that doctors order.

Slide D
This often confuses doctors, sometimes leading them to believe the patient's symptoms are not real and are due to stress or depression. When Lisa's tests did not show anything, the doctor diagnosed depression as the cause of her symptoms.