



Dupuytren's Disease and The Dupuytren Foundation



Office and Events: 435 Gardenia St
West Palm Beach, FL 33401

What Is Dupuytren's?



Dupuytren's (*pronounced "DOOP a trens"*, named for the French surgeon Dupuytren) is an inherited condition that affects the palm and fingers. It pulls the fingers into a permanent bend, called Dupuytren's contracture. Although usually not painful, it can be very disabling.

10 million Americans have bent fingers from Dupuytren's contracture. 20 million more are in earlier stages with tightness or a lump in the palm.

Dupuytren's runs in families, but often skips several generations. It is more common in men than women, in those with light complexions, and in seniors.

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348, Palm Springs, FL 33461



How Is Dupuytren's Treated?

The most common treatments are open surgery (fasciectomy), enzyme injection (collagenase) and needle release (percutaneous fasciotomy).

None of these procedures is ideal: they often provide only partial, temporary improvement. Open surgery lasts the longest, but can have a long recovery and possible complications. Minimally invasive procedures have shorter recovery and lower complication rates, but on the average don't last as long before recurrence. There is no prevention and no cure – yet.

Once the biology of Dupuytren's is better understood, new treatments may be developed to avoid the need for surgery. This is the goal of the Dupuytren Foundation.

Phone 949-CURE-DUP (949-287-3387)
FAX 561-828-0494

Why Haven't I Heard Of It?

Dupuytren's isn't new. There are clues suggesting Dupuytren's contracture in prehistoric cave paintings, Egyptian mummies and in the 11th century Icelandic sagas. Dupuytren's affects far more people than one might suspect. It progresses slowly, usually isn't obvious unless the person tries to straighten his or her fingers, and so often goes unnoticed by others until it is a severe problem. It's a silent epidemic.

Why Is This Important?

If either you or a family member has Dupuytren's, you already know. Currently, the only option for sufferers is to wait until it is so disabling that they are forced to undergo a hand procedure.

In addition, Dupuytren's research will help progress in the treatment of other diseases such as hardening of the arteries, cirrhosis of the liver, lung fibrosis and other conditions with similar biology.

Web: <http://Dupuytren.org>
email: info@Dupuytren.org



Who We Are

The Dupuytren foundation is a 501(c)(3) patient advocacy public charity representing a collaboration of physicians, scientists and patients.

Our Mission Has Three Goals

1. Public education to raise awareness of Dupuytren's disease and the need for better treatment options.
2. Academic collaboration of both clinical and basic science research to better understand the biology and improve the safety and effectiveness of treatment.
3. Fundraising to support the research needed to find a cure for Dupuytren's disease.

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Our History

Because there is no medical treatment, surgeons have been the primary caregivers for Dupuytren's for nearly 200 years. Despite the efforts of generations of surgeons, there is not yet any operation or procedure that reliably provides an ideal long-term solution for Dupuytren's contracture.

The Dupuytren Foundation was founded in 2008 by Dr. Charles Eaton. A hand surgeon with a special interest in Dupuytren's, Dr. Eaton has travelled abroad to bring new techniques to the USA, treated over 8000 hands affected by Dupuytren's contracture, seen its impact on the lives of the afflicted, and realized the need for an organized effort to find a cure. Dr. Eaton established the Dupuytren Foundation in response to this need.

The Dupuytren Foundation is the premiere Dupuytren resource and the *only organization devoted to the goal of finding a cure for this disease.*

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What Have We Done So Far?

The Dupuytren Foundation sponsors conferences, publications, research, and connects physicians with researchers to forge new approaches. DF has accomplished much in a short time, with much more underway.

The Dupuytren Foundation produced and sponsored the 2010 International Symposium on Dupuytren's Disease: <http://DupuytrenSymposium.com>.

This event drew participants from 17 countries and led to the publication of *Dupuytren's Disease and Related Hyperproliferative Disorders* (2012), a textbook now used as an international resource on Dupuytren's.

DF research grants fill a critical need to support innovative research for new and better options for the Dupuytren community. In 2013, DF awarded two \$10,000 grants to sponsor new research on Dupuytren's. DF will continue to promote research and education until a cure is found.

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What Can You Do?

Learn more about Dupuytren's disease. These web sites are good starting points:

- **Dupuytrens.org**
Dupuytren Foundation
- **DupSociety.org**
Dupuytren Society

Discuss Dupuytren's with your local hand surgeon, listed on these sites:

- **Handsurgery.org**
American Association for Hand Surgery
- **ASSH.org**
American Society for Surgery of the Hand

Contact the Dupuytren Foundation to discuss Dupuytren's and your options for supporting the effort to find a cure.



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