

## **PHENOTYPES OF LIPOEDEMA**

### **Forner-Cordero I.**

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Lipoedema is a chronic disease very frequent in the female population. It has been reported a prevalence of 11% but it is potentially higher considering the frequent underdiagnosis and the misdiagnosis with obesity or lymphedema. One of the major problems is the lack of a test to confirm it.

Diagnosis of lipoedema is mainly based on clinical history and physical examination.

The most characteristic manifestations of lipoedema are: easy bruising, the disproportion between the upper and lower body-halves, symmetrical involvement of the lower limbs and unaffected feet.

Lipoedema can be classified in 5 types depending on the distribution of fat; and based on inspection and palpation, lipoedema can be classified in 4 clinical stages of severity. As obesity is the most frequent comorbidity in patients with lipoedema, the differential diagnosis is not always easy to do and the relationship between both diseases has to be deeply addressed in the future.