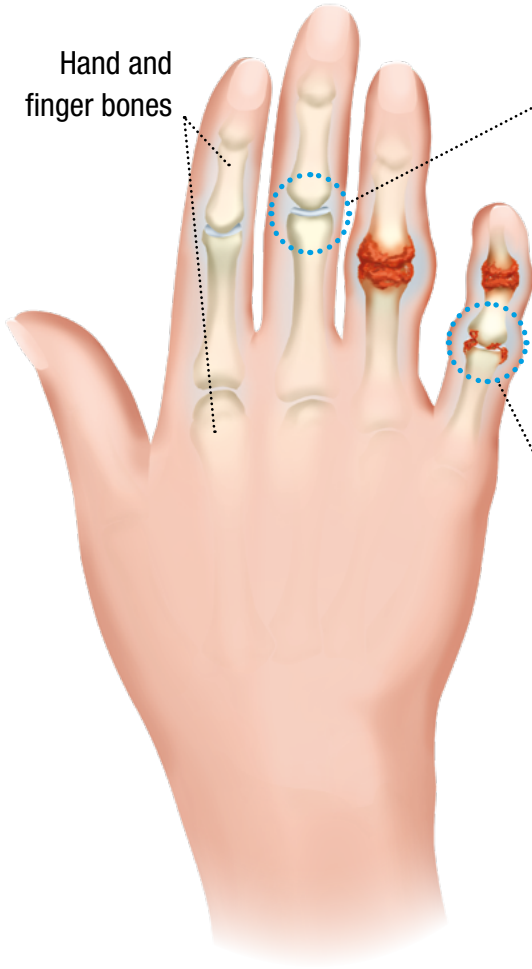
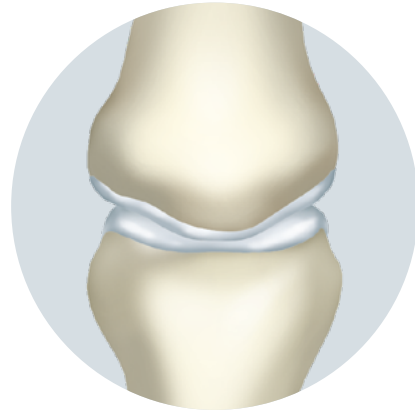


# GOUT

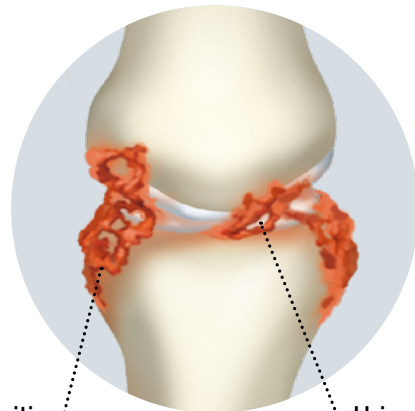
Painful uric acid deposits



Healthy finger joint



Finger joint with gouty arthritis



Arthritis

Uric acid deposits

# GOUT

## Clear and simple

- Gout is a metabolic disorder whereby the amount of uric acid in the body increases to a very high level precipitating as crystals in joints and causing inflammation of the joints. Medical professionals refer to this clinical picture as hyperuricemia with deposition.
- Uric acid is a natural end product of the metabolism. Kidneys remove the uric acid from the blood, and it is then excreted mainly with the urine.
- In healthy people, the uric acid level is in a state of equilibrium, meaning that almost exactly the same amount of uric acid is produced as is excreted.
- If this equilibrium is disrupted, the uric acid level will increase excessively. As a result, the uric acid in the blood may crystallise to form needle-sharp crystals.
- These crystal deposits around the joints lead to severe pain, inflammation and swelling.
- The joints may under certain circumstances become deformed, stiff and unmovable as a result of the deposits. This mostly affects the finger and toe joints.

