|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | |
|  | **Procedures:**  1. The first step I took was talking to my rheumatologist, Dr. Emory at UCSF, to get ideas and suggestions for a topic. She and I both decided that with my history and access, the investigation into some factors that may cause Lupus would be a good topic for my project. She also suggested some text books as the UCSF library for me to use.  2. Next came the research. I went to the library at UCSF, as well as the Pleaseanton and Amador Libraries and got many books on Lupus. Some other sources I used were the Internet, magazine articles, and I interviewed a person with Lupus. I used the notecard technique for my research and it took me a total of about two months to compile all of the information I used.  3. Now it was time to write the survey. I decided what questions to ask and what factors to consider based on my research and my own personal experiences with the disease. The survey I complied included eighteen questions that I felt would held me to determine some possible factors that contribute to Lupus. (See section entitled "sample survey")  4. Once I wrote the survey, I had to come up with a way to administer it to Lupus patients. I contacted several Lupus organizations on the Internet such as The Lupus Foundation of America and Kate Purcell at Medakate. I e-mailed them explaining my project and they agreed to distribute the survey to their support groups. I e-mailed them a copy and within days, patients started e-mailing me the results. I received sixty-seven surveys back from Lupus patients that I used in my project.  5. Not only did I give the survey to the Lupus patients, but also to people without Lupus. I gave the survey to fifty people at my school, church, and neighborhood. I tried to make sure the age groups were similar to those in the Lupus population. I used these results as a control to compare the results of my Lupus surveys to a sample of a normal, healthy population.  6. Once I got the results of all the surveys, I analyzed them, graphed them and drew the conclusions of my project based on the results of the analyzed surveys. I also did statistical tests of significance to the most outstanding factors that were reveled by the survey.  [Next](http://docs.google.com/data2.html) | |
|  | |