

-Strauss syndrome is a very rare disorder that causes blood vessel inflammation. The disorder also is known as allergic angiitis and granulomatosis (GRAN-u-lo-ma-TO-sis). Churg-Strauss syndrome can affect many organs, including the lungs, skin, kidneys, nervous system, and heart. Symptoms can vary widely. They may include asthma, higher than normal levels of white blood cells in the blood and tissues, and abnormal lumps known as granulomas (gran-yu-LO-mas). Essential mixed cryoglobulinemia (KRI-o-GLOB-u-luh-NE-me-uh) can occur alone or with a systemic vasculitis. A systemic vasculitis is one that affects the body in a general or overall way. Cryoglobulinemia refers to abnormal proteins in the blood. These proteins form a gel when a blood sample is exposed to temperatures lower than normal body temperature. Symptoms often include joint aches; weakness; nerve changes, such as numbness, tingling, and pain in the limbs; kidney inflammation; and a raised, bumpy, reddish-purple skin rash known as palpable purpura (PURR-purr-ah). Although essential mixed cryoglobulin