

# Video transcript: Know your enemy – Inflammation

Hi, welcome to another Museum of Human Disease “Know Your Enemy” video.

Here, you see some distinct reddening in this specimen, and in this one you see swelling.

Inflammation is an immune response to a harmful stimulus within the human body. It is characterised by swelling, reddening, heat, pain and occasionally, loss of function. This happens because a signal causes the blood vessels to vasodilate, or expand, allowing increased blood flow to the area, which causes swelling to occur. The increased blood flow brings more immune cells into the area to fight infection or to promote healing.