What is a **MAST CELL**?

Mast cells are a part of the **immune system**.

Mast cells play a role in inflammation, help defend against pathogens and are involved in wound healing and tissue repair.

They’re found in most tissues throughout the body, especially those that interact with the outside environment, including the lungs, gastrointestinal tract and skin.

Mast cells are well-known for releasing histamine during allergic reactions, such as in pollen or insect sting allergies.

When a mast cell is activated by a trigger, these granules release many mediators (chemicals that mediate reactions leading to symptoms).

**histamine** is a mediator

They can detect and respond to foreign substances.

They play an important role in **anaphylaxis**!

**MAST CELL DISEASE** happens when these cells aren’t behaving normally.

Learn more at [tmsforacure.org](http://tmsforacure.org)