

A Note on Neuromuscular Diseases

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A neuromuscular disorder is a wide-range of diseases affecting the peripheral nervous system, and consists of all motor and sensory nerves which connect to the brain and spinal cord and to the rest of the body. Progressive muscle weakness is the major condition of these disorders.

Neuromuscular disease is that encompasses several diseases and ailments that impair the functioning of the muscles, either directly or indirectly.

Neuromuscular diseases that affect muscles and nervous system control; complications with the central nervous control may cause either spasticity or partial paralysis (both lower and upper motor neuron disorders), depends on location and the nature of the problem. Some of the examples of central disorders consist of cerebrovascular accident, multiple sclerosis, Huntington's disease, parkinson's disease, and Creutzfeldt–Jakob disease. Spinal muscular atrophies are disorders of lower motor neuron while amyotrophic lateral sclerosis is a mixed upper and lower motor neuron condition.

Neuromuscular disease may cause by the autoimmune disorders, genetic/hereditary disorders and collagen disorder (Ehlers–Danlos Syndrome), exposure to chemicals and poison in environment which includes heavy metal poisoning.

Inflammatory muscle disorders

- Polymyalgia rheumatica

- Polymyositis
- Rhabdomyolysis

Tumors

- Leiomyoma (benign tumor)
- Rhabdomyoma

The procedures of diagnosis may disclose the muscular disorders include clinical observations. Generally, this starts with the observation of bulk, possible loss of muscle tone or atrophy. Neuromuscular disease also diagnosed by testing the various levels of chemicals and antigens in blood using electrodiagnostic medicine tests, electromyography (measuring electrical activity in muscles) and studies on nerve conduction.

In neuromuscular disease evaluation, it is important to perform neurologic and musculoskeletal examinations. Genetic testing is important and part of diagnosing the inherited neuromuscular conditions.

There is no cure for most of the neuromuscular disorders, but few can be managed and treated effectively. Some of the treatment options include medical therapy, which includes immunosuppressive drugs, pain management and assistive devices. We also offer apheresis, filters out antibodies in the blood which are associated with the neuromuscular disease that cause weakness and other problems. This allows us to get forward of some diseases and treat them more effectively. Clinical trials offers new therapies are also available to patients.

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