Multifocal Motor Neuropathy

Multifocal motor neuropathy is a progressive muscle disorder characterized by asymmetrical muscle weakness. Symptoms, which begin in the upper *extremities* (arms and hands), may include muscle weakness, atrophy, and cramping. Fasciculations (involuntary contractions or twitching of a group of muscles) may also occur. The disorder may be mistaken for other, far more serious, disorders. Early diagnosis allows patients to begin recovery quickly.

TREATMENT

Treatment for multifocal motor neuropathy varies. Some individuals experience only mild, modest symptoms and require no treatment. For others, treatment generally consists of intravenous immunoglobulin (IVIG) or cyclophosphamide.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN

Improvement in muscle strength usually beings within 3 to 6 weeks after treatment is started. Most patients who receive treatment early experience little, if any, disability. However, there is evidence of slow progression over many years.

RESEARCH BEING DONE

The NINDS supports a broad range of research on neuromuscular disorders with the goal of finding ways to prevent, treat, and, ultimately, cure them.

Research is continually being done to learn more about this problem.

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