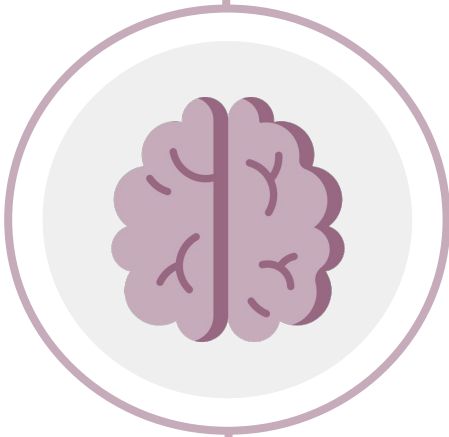




[Editing file](#)

Peripheral neuropathies



Understanding the cases at the end and the way they are approached is the most important thing in this lecture.

Objectives :

By the end of the lecture the student should be able to:

- ★ Obtain informative history from a patient with peripheral neuropathy.
- ★ Use clinical information to recognize different patterns of peripheral neuropathy.
- ★ Provide differential diagnosis for each pattern.

Color index

Original text

Females slides

Males slides

Doctor's notes ⁴³⁸

Doctor's notes ⁴³⁹

Text book

Important

Golden notes

Extra

Overview

- some symptoms may indicate brain injury rather than peripheral injury
- From the symptoms you can localize the problem whether in peripheral nerves or in the brain
- The injury whether be in **motor**, **sensory** or **autonomic** systems



- **Motor:** whether upper motor neuron (UMN) or lower motor neuron (LMN)
- **UMN:** the cell body located at motor cortex, the axon descends through internal capsule, brain stem (decussate at medulla) until reaches anterior horn cell
- **LMN:** the cell body located in the anterior horn cell, the axon descends through the root then to plexus, peripheral nerve and NMJ then muscles



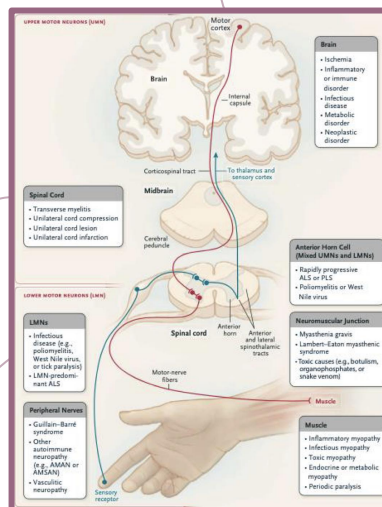
- **Sensory:** starts distally and ascends through 2 systems
- **Large fibers** (myelinated) in dorsal tract: transmits joint position, vibration & helps in reflexes
- **Small fibers** (unmyelinated) in spinothalamic tract: transmits pain & temperature
- You might be asked about it

Cortex

weakness, sensory, Aphasia, Dysarthria, Hemianopia, Apraxia, Agnosia, Alexia, Agraphia, Asterognosis, Graphesthesia, Dementia, memory, Decrease LOC, Seizures, UMN signs

Brain stem

weakness, sensory, CN dysfunction (diplopia, vertigo, tongue weakness, dysphagia, dysarthria, LMN facial) crossed features, ataxia, Decrease LOC, UMN signs



Spinal cord

weakness, sensory, crossed features, sensory ataxia, sphincter dysfunction

AHC

weakness, atrophy, fasciculations, LMN signs

Root, plexus, peripheral nerve

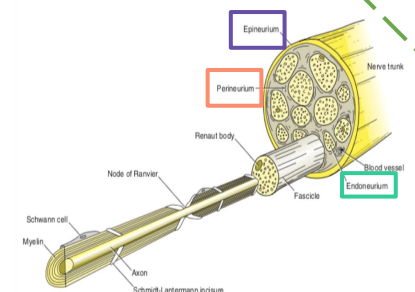
weakness, atrophy, fasciculations, sensory, pain (shooting pain), LMN signs

Muscle & NMJ

weakness (proximal), LMN signs

Dr notes:

- The nerve is surrounded by the **epineurium**.
- The nerves come out of the spinal cord and the epineurium is a continuation of the dura mater.
- Inside the nerves you have **fascicle of axons** and are surrounded by **perineurium**.
- Inside each fascicle you have many small nerves (fibers), and in between these nerves there is **endoneurium**
- The nerves are divided into small and large nerves the **small nerves are unmyelinated** and the **large nerve fibers are myelinated**.
- Nodes of Ranvier separates the myelin sheath, they have condensed Na channels causing intense action potentials to reach the threshold and cause depolarization in the next part of the myelin sheath.
- myelin helps with excitatory action potential as it improves the transmission of action potential

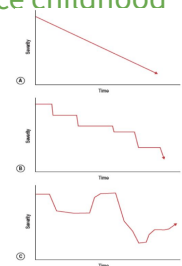


◀ Symptoms

| Abnormality | Description |
|--------------------------|--|
| Sensory | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tingling, pins & needles, burning, stabbing, shooting, prickling, dead (numbness), icy, hot, clumsy, wooden, walking on sponges or cotton or something sharp, wearing stocking while they're not. more likely large fibers: tingling, pins & needles more likely small fibers: burning, shooting & dead feeling |
| Motor | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Weakness , cramps, twitches (fasciculations) |
| Distal weakness | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Turning keys, opening jars and doing up buttons Tripping, stepping over curbs, uneven ground <i>pt. says he falls when he walks. my toes catch the floor and I trip and fall or having to raise the leg highly to walk up the stairs.</i> |
| Proximal Weakness | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Standing from sitting, walking up or down stairs, shaving, combing hair and brushing teeth <i>pt. says the the he/she has difficulty washing hair .</i> |
| Autonomic | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Anhydrosis (don't sweat), excessive sweating, orthostatic lightheadedness, impotence, dry mouth, early satiety "feeling full after small meals" blurred vision in bright light (pupil constriction and dilation problems) |

Chronological pattern

- **Onset:**
 - **Timing:** <4 weeks, 4-8 week , >8 weeks, chronic
 - Sudden, gradual, etc
 - Sometimes you ask the patient when did it start and he would say "**I don't know I've had it for a long time**". so you would ask: Were you a reasonable athlete as a child?, Did you finish last in foot races?, Were you able to skate or play soccer? to know if it started since childhood
- **Duration**
 - Persistent
 - Intermittent
- **Progression**
 - Chronic progression
 - Acute deterioration to nadir then stability or improvement
 - Fluctuating



◀ Past history and comorbidities

| | | | | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|--|--------------|--|-----------------|
| | Diabetes (glucose intolerance) | | Bariatric surgery¹ (B1 Deficiency)² | | | | |
| | Orthopedic procedures on feet and ankles ³ | | Previous cervical or lumbar disc disease | | | | |
| | Connective tissue disease: → SLE → Rheumatoid arthritis | | Previous entrapment neuropathies: → Multiple entrapments (consider HNPP, amyloidosis) | | | | |
| | Thyroid disease | | Renal failure | | Malignancies | | Hepatic failure |

◀ Family history

- ❖ Detailed family history
 - Walking difficulty, use of cane or wheelchair, Postural or foot deformities
- ❖ Probe history of disabled or possibly affected individuals
- ❖ Do not necessarily accept what diagnoses other individuals have

Some patients might say NO to family history, so you have to ask if anyone in the family have walking difficulty or used a cane or a wheelchair early in life, and if anyone in the family have foot deformity, they might even tell you that his father for example has Rheumatoid Arthritis and he has weakness because of it, then you will find that they were misdiagnosed and the deformity was due to the same reason (hereditary neuropathy)

◀ Social History

- Exposure to Alcohol**
- Recreational Drugs (Nitrous oxide)
- Tobacco
- Vitamin and herb use
- Occupation

| Occupation | Cause of Neuropathy |
|---|---------------------|
| Dentists | Nitrous Oxide |
| Painters, glue sniffers | Hexacarbons |
| Farmers | Organophosphates |
| Welders | Lead |
| Jewelers | Arsenic |
| Plastic industry | Acrylamide |
| Not important for your exam but they love to ask it in the board exams | |

◀ Review of Systems

- ❖ Joint pain, stiffness, swelling, fever, Skin rash and other systems
- ❖ Undiagnosed connective tissue disease associated with neuropathy, cancer (polyneuropathy is seen as a paraneoplastic syndrome) or Brucella.

1- When people lose weight, they have malnutrition. like **vitamin b1 (thiamin)** and that can result in severe neuropathy if left untreated
 2- Thiamine deficiency → impaired glucose breakdown → ATP depletion → tissue damage. This could lead to **BeriBeri**. **Clinical features: Symmetrical peripheral neuropathy (sensory & motor) Progressive muscle wasting, Paralysis, Confusion. it resembles Guillain Barre syndrome.** look for history to differentiate.
 3- Peripheral neuropathy due to hereditary disease can be associated with deformity, they will undergo surgery and get referred to neuro.



Neurological examination

- ◆ **Confirm localization**
 - **Lower Motor Neuron (LMN) vs Upper Motor Neuron (UMN)**
 - myopathy vs neuropathy

UMN vs LMN lesions¹
(possible theoretical OSCE question)

| | UMN | LMN |
|-------------------------|--|---|
| Definition | Lesion Typically above the anterior horn cell of the spinal cord or motor nuclei of the cranial nerves (e.g., motor cortex, brain stem) | Lesion anywhere along the nerve fibers between the anterior horn of the spinal cord and relevant muscle tissue |
| Muscles | Atrophy is absent. long-standing UMN lesion may cause mild atrophy Fasciculations are absent. | Atrophy and fasciculations |
| Characteristics | ↑ Tone (clasp knife phenomenon), spasticity, clonus and hyperreflexia | ↓ Tone (no clasp knife phenomenon) and Hyporeflexia/areflexia |
| Bladder function | Detrusor hyperreflexia and detrusor/external urethral sphincter dyssynergia | Overflow incontinence |
| Babinski sign | Upgoing (positive) Except in children up to the age of 2 years | Downgoing (negative) |

- ◆ **Recognize pattern of neuropathy**
 - Motor vs sensory vs sensory motor
 - **Proximal vs distal**
 - Symmetric vs asymmetric
- ◆ **Recognize features of hereditary neuropathy**
 - **pes cavus** (high arch of the foot)
 - hammer toe
 - Clawing of the hand
 - distal wasting in the leg
 - **scoliosis**
- ◆ **Recognize features that narrows the differential diagnosis.**
 - Purpura and livedo reticularis
- ◆ **Autonomic features**
 - BP & HR supine and standing
 - Pupillary reaction to light and accommodation
- ◆ **Other:**
 - Skin: trophic changes (such as thin, shiny, and discolored skin)
 - rashes (vasculitis)
 - ulcerations or amputations.
 - peripheral pulses. **especially for diabetic patients**

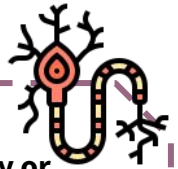


1- In **LOW**er motor neuron lesions: muscle mass, tone, power, and reflexes are **LOW**.
In **UP**per motor neuron lesions: muscle tone, reflexes, and toes (Babinski sign) are **UP**.

2- **Cold** temperature and **pinprick** are classified as **small fibers** (pain and cold are transmitted through **type C fibers** “small fibers”)

3- **light touch is both small and large fibers**

4- Vibration, joint position and reflexes are transmitted through **large fibers**



Introduction

- ❖ Disorders of the peripheral nervous system are common and **may affect the motor, sensory or autonomic components, either in isolation or in combination.**
- ❖ The site of pathology may be **nerve root (radiculopathy), nerve plexus (plexopathy) or nerve (neuropathy).**
- ❖ Neuropathies may present as **mononeuropathy (single nerve affected), multiple mononeuropathies ('mononeuritis multiplex') or a symmetrical polyneuropathy**

Pathophysiology

- ❖ Damage may occur to the nerve cell body (axon) or the myelin sheath (Schwann cell), leading to axonal or demyelinating neuropathies.
- ❖ The distinction is important, as only demyelinating neuropathies are usually susceptible to treatment.
- ❖ Neuropathies can occur in association with many systemic diseases, toxins and drugs

Investigations:

- ❖ The investigations required reflect the wide spectrum of causes.
- ❖ **Neurophysiological tests are key in discriminating between demyelinating and axonal neuropathies,** and in identifying entrapment neuropathies.
- ❖ Most neuropathies are of the chronic axonal type.

| 25.86 Investigation of peripheral neuropathy | |
|--|--|
| Initial tests | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Glucose (fasting) • Erythrocyte sedimentation rate, C-reactive protein • Full blood count • Urea and electrolytes • Liver function tests | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Serum protein electrophoresis • Vitamin B₁₂, folate • ANA, ANCA • Chest X-ray • HIV testing |
| If initial tests are negative | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nerve conduction studies • Vitamins E and A • Genetic testing (see Box 25.84) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lyme serology (p. 256) • Serum angiotensin-converting enzyme • Serum amyloid |
| <small>(ANCA = antineutrophil cytoplasmic antibody; ANA = antineutrophil antibody)</small> | |

★ Symptoms and signs in common entrapment neuropathies

| Nerve | symptoms | Muscle weakness | Area of sensory loss |
|-----------------|--|--|---|
| Median | Pain and paraesthesia on palmar aspect of hands and fingers, waking patient from sleep. Pain may extend to arm and shoulder | Abductor pollicis brevis | Lateral palm and thumb, index, middle and lateral half fourth finger |
| Ulnar | Paraesthesia on medial border of hand, wasting and weakness of hand muscles | All small hand muscles, excluding abductor pollicis brevis | Medial palm and little finger, and medial half fourth finger |
| Radial | Weakness of extension of wrist and fingers, often precipitated by sleeping in abnormal posture, e.g. arm over back of chair | Wrist and finger extensors, supinator, | Dorsum of thumb |
| Common peroneal | Foot drop, trauma to head of fibula | Dorsiflexion and eversion of foot | Nil or dorsum of foot |

Mononeuritis multiplex

- ❖ Several nerves, such as the ulnar, median, radial and lateral popliteal, become affected sequentially or simultaneously. When multifocal neuropathy is symmetrical, there is difficulty distinguishing it from polyneuropathy.
- ❖ this can occur in
 - diabetes mellitus
 - leprosy
 - vasculitis, including eosinophilic granulomatosis with polyangiitis
 - amyloidosis
 - malignancy
 - neurofibromatosis
 - HIV and hepatitis C infection
 - multifocal motor neuropathy with conduction block

| 25.88 Causes of multifocal mononeuropathy | |
|---|--|
| Axonal (defined on nerve conduction studies) | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vasculitis (systemic or non-systemic) • Diabetes mellitus • Sarcoidosis • Infection (HIV, hepatitis C, Lyme disease, leprosy, diphtheria) | |
| Focal demyelination with/without conduction block | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multifocal motor neuropathy • Multiple compression neuropathies (usually in association with underlying disease, such as diabetes or alcoholism) • Multifocal acquired demyelinating sensory and motor neuropathy (MADSAM) • Hereditary neuropathy with a predisposition to pressure palsy (autosomal dominant, peripheral myelin protein 22 gene) • Lymphoma | |

Radiculopathy

- ❖ Signs and symptoms reflect the nerve roots involved. clinical features include:



muscle weakness and wasting



Loss of reflexes



dermatomal sensory loss



Pain in the muscles of the affected roots

Hereditary neuropathy

- ❖ **Charcot-Marie-Tooth disease (CMT)** is an umbrella term for the inherited neuropathies.
- ❖ the disease typically progress **slowly over many years**
- ❖ The members of this group of syndromes have different clinical and genetic features.
- ❖ **The most common CMT is the autosomal dominantly inherited CMT type 1**
- ❖ Common signs:
 - Distal wasting.
 - **Pes cavus.**
 - Variable loss of sensation and reflexes.
 - In advanced disease, severe foot drop results but patients usually remain ambulant.

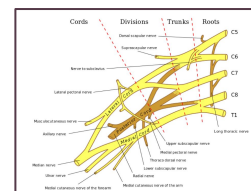


Pes Cavus

Chronic inflammatory demyelinating polyneuropathy (CIDP)

- ❖ CIDP typically presents with relapsing or progressive motor and sensory changes, **evolving over more than 8 weeks (in distinction to the more acute GBS)**.
- ❖ It is important to recognise, as it usually responds to glucocorticoids, plasma exchange or intravenous immunoglobulin.
- ❖ There is no single diagnostic test but **CSF protein is raised** and **patchy demyelination** is usually seen on nerve conduction studies.

Don't memorize

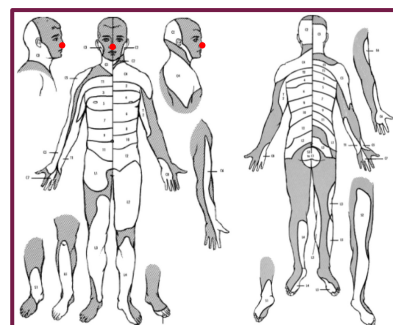


★ Dermatomal & peripheral nerve distribution

1 Upper limb Dermatomal distribution

Upper limb Dermatomal distribution:

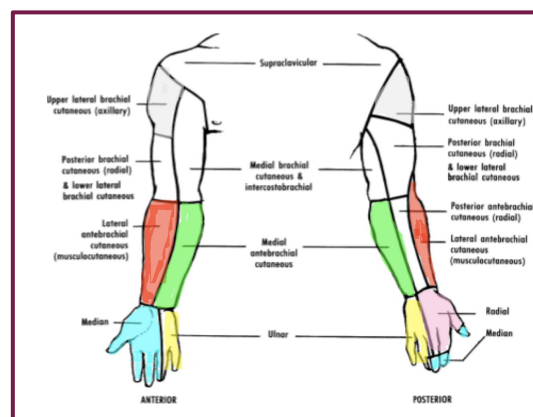
- Lateral part of the shoulder → **C5**
- Lateral part of the forearm to the thumb → **C6**
- middle finger → **C7**
- little finger → **C8**
- medial part of the forearm → **T1**



2 Peripheral nerves distribution¹

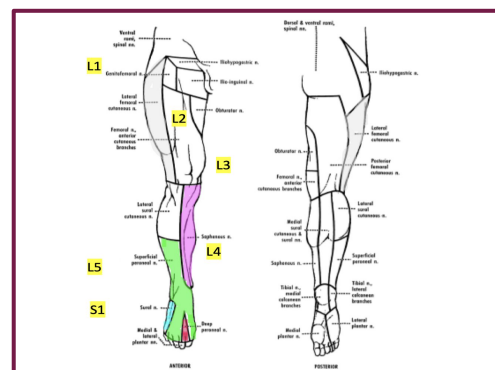
The peripheral nerves distribution is slightly different:

- The lateral part of the upper arm is **supplied by Axillary nerve (C5)**
- The lateral part of the forearm and thumb is supplied by the **lateral antebrachial (C6)**
- The lateral 3 and a half fingers are supplied by the **median nerve (C6 + C7)** + thumb abduction
- The medial 1 and a half finger is supplied by **the ulnar nerve (C8)** + thumb adduction + fingers abduction & adduction
- The medial part of the forearm is applied by **medial antebrachial (T1)**



3 Lower limb Distribution

- **The lateral aspect of the leg extending to the dorsum of the foot , superficial peroneal (L5)**
- The area between the first and second Toes the deep peroneal sensory nerve (**L5**)
- The lateral part of the foot behind the lateral malleolus is supplied by the sural nerve (**S1**)
- The sole of the foot is also (**S1**)
- The medial part of the leg from the knee to the medial malleolus is the saphenous nerve (**L4**)
- The medial part of the thigh and knee (**L3**)
- The Mid thigh is (**L2**)
- The inguinal ligament is (**L1**)
- The lateral part of the thigh is supplied by the lateral femoral cutaneous nerve of the thigh



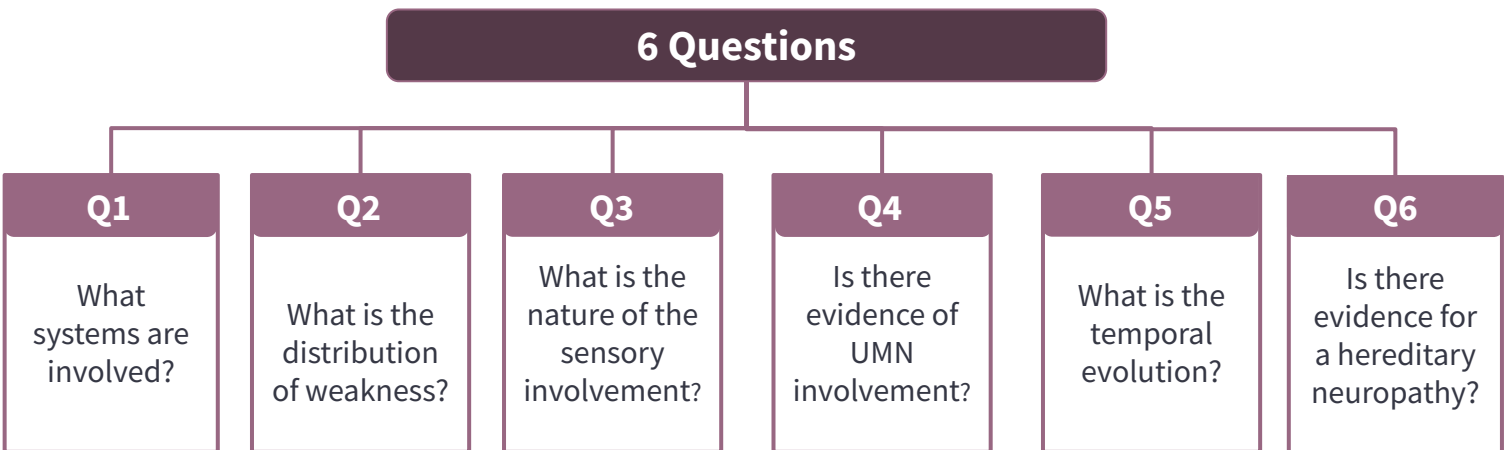
use this pic for lower limb distribution (different sources differ)

1- with **root involvement (dermatome)**, the sensory loss is usually mild and not well demarcated as opposed to peripheral nerve where the sensory loss is more demarcated, **why? because the dermatomes overlap and nerves don't.**

Introduction

1. Recognition of a clinical pattern.
2. There are 6 key questions the clinician should consider in arriving at the pattern that fits the patient best.
3. Most neuropathy and neuronopathy patients can be placed into **one of 10 patterns**

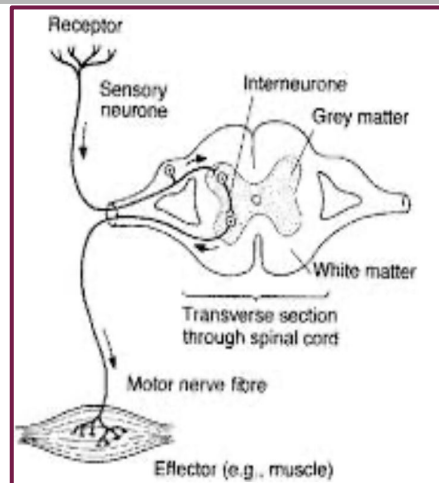
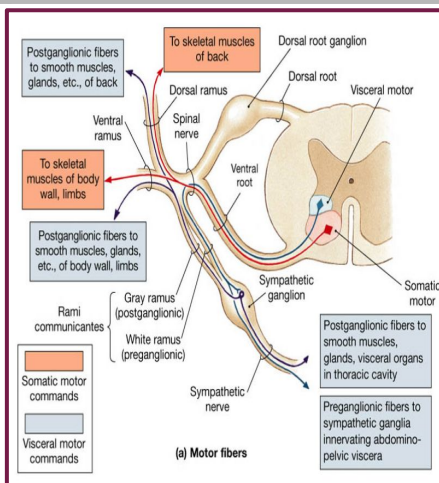
Approach - 6 Questions



Question 1- What systems are involved ?

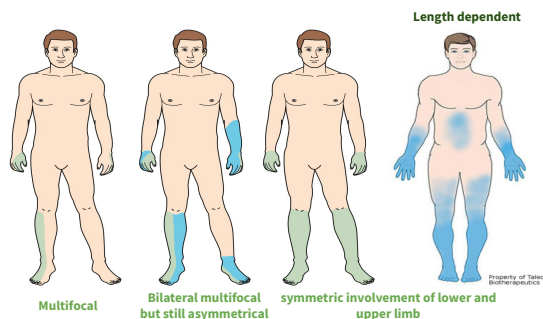


| | |
|------------------|--|
| Motor | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● localized to AHC (anterior horn cell), motor nerve roots, motor nerves, NMJ, muscle. |
| Sensory | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● peripheral nerve, plexus, DRG (dorsal root ganglion), sensory nerve roots, small fibers, spinal cord, thalamus, sensory cortex. |
| Autonomic | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● peripheral nerve, autonomic nerves, lateral gray/white communicants (between nerve roots and sympathetic ganglia) ● If mild, we may not capture it by clinical assessment |
| Other | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Most commonly combinations of any of the above |



Question 2- What is the Distribution of Weakness?

- Proximal
 - Distal
 - Proximal > Distal
 - Distal > proximal
- Symmetric vs Asymmetric**
- Focal
 - Multifocal
- Asymmetric**



| Asymmetric/focal weakness | Symmetric weakness |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Radiculopathy • Plexopathy • Mononeuropathy • Multiple mononeuropathies • Motor neuron disease • Hereditary e.g. HNPP¹ (hereditary neuropathy with predisposition to pressure palsies) • MADSAM² (multi-focal acquired demyelinating sensory and motor neuropathy) • MMNCB² (multifocal motor neuropathy with conduction block) • Infections² | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GBS & CIDP • Metabolic: Diabetic peripheral neuropathy, uremic, endocrine, etc. • Toxic: ETOH, chemo, etc.. • Infections: HIV • Vitamin deficiency: B1, 6, 12, folic acid, copper, vit E, etc. • Hereditary: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ CMT (Charcot-Marie-Tooth disease) ○ HSAN (Hereditary sensory and autonomic neuropathy) |

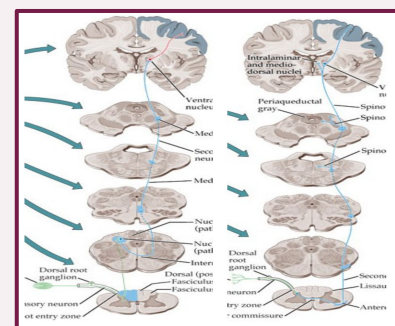
Question 3- What is the nature of the sensory involvement?

- ❖ Is it large fiber or small fiber?
- ❖ **Pain** (burning or stabbing) **impaired PP (pinprick examination)** and **temperature** → small fiber (type c fibers)
- ❖ Tingling, weakness, ataxia, imbalance, impaired vibration and proprioception (**joint position**) also **reflexes** → large fiber
- ❖ **Most neuropathies involve both small and large fibers.**
- ❖ Severe proprioceptive loss
 - Central: dorsal column
 - Generally less profound proprioceptive loss
 - ★ **Ganglionopathy³**: loss of all sensory modalities and reflexes

| | Negative | Positive |
|------------------|--|---|
| Motor | Weakness Fatigue Hyporeflexia or areflexia Hypotonia Orthopedic deformities (e.g., pes cavus, hammer toes) | Fasciculations Cramps Atrophy Restless legs "Tightness" |
| Sensory | | |
| Large fiber | Decreased vibration sensation Decreased joint position sensation Hyporeflexia or areflexia Ataxia | "Tingling" "Pins and needles" |
| Small fiber | Hypotonia Decreased pain sensation Decreased temperature sensation | "Burning" "Jabbing" |
| Autonomic | Hypohidrosis Arrhythmia Decreased sweating Impotence Urinary retention | "Shooting" Hypertension Arrhythmia Increased sweating |

Dr notes:

- **The small fibers**, when it goes into the spinal cord it crosses to the **contralateral** tract and ascends in the **spinothalamic tract**.
- **Large fibers** ascends in the **ipsilateral** dorsal column until it reaches the **brainstem** and then it crosses to the **contralateral side**.
- The **dorsal root ganglion** is the **primary/first order neuron** for large and small nerve fibers
- So, if there is a damage to the dorsal root ganglion you will lose all of the sensations **from both the small and large fibers**. you will also **lose the reflexes** because "as you already know" it is part of the reflex arc. so patients with DRG disorders have peripheral **ataxia, loss of sensations from both small and large fibers and loss of reflexes but it is asymmetric**



1- the majority are symmetric, this is an exception.
2- can be both symmetric or asymmetric.

3- "hidden cancer" paraneoplastic syndrome, Sjogren's disease, Vit B6 toxicity.

Question 4- Is there evidence of upper motor neuron involvement?

Without sensory loss

- ❖ UMN without sensory involvement = Motor neuron disease
- ❖ Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS)
- ❖ Primary lateral sclerosis (PLS)

With sensory loss

- ❖ Sensory involvement along with UMNL signs = Cord involvement along with the peripheral nerve
- ❖ for your level i want you to know that **vit B12** or **folate** deficiency cause it
- ❖ **B12 deficiency** (myeloneuropathy)
- ❖ **folate deficiency**
- ❖ copper
- ❖ vit E
- ❖ Friedrich's Ataxia (inherited disease that cause a similar picture to b12)

Question 5- What is the temporal¹ evolution?

Acute

(days to 4 weeks)

Subacute

(4-8 weeks)

Chronic

(>8 weeks)

Preceding events

infections, drugs and toxins

Question 6- Is there evidence for a hereditary neuropathy?

- ❖ Family history of neuropathy
- ❖ **Skeletal deformities**
- ❖ **long standing history**
- ❖ **Lack of sensory symptoms despite sensory signs.** You ask the patient if he has any sensory problems and he says no, you examine him and you'd be surprised how the severe sensory loss they have. the thing is, they're developing the symptoms over a long time so they wouldn't know if they're losing it or not.

Patterns of neuropathic disorders

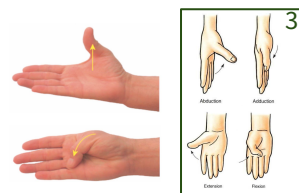
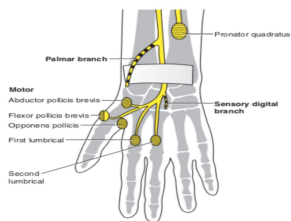
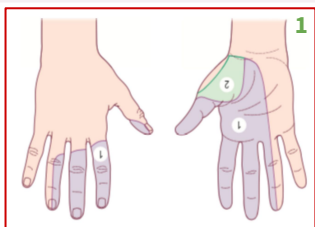
- The first 4 patterns are the important ones don't care about the rest
- you will **NOT** be asked "what pattern is the disease". you just need to know the pattern to get the differential diagnosis

| | Weakness | | | | Sensory symptoms | Severe proprioceptive loss | UMN signs | Autonomic symptoms/signs | Diagnosis |
|--|----------|--------|------------|-----------|------------------|----------------------------|-----------|--------------------------|--|
| | Proximal | Distal | Asymmetric | Symmetric | | | | | |
| Pattern 1: symmetric proximal and distal weakness with sensory loss | + | + | | + | + | | | | GBS, CIDP |
| Pattern 2: Distal Sensory loss with/ without weakness | | + | | + | + | | | | CSPN ¹ , metabolic, drugs, hereditary: (CMT, Amyloidosis) |
| Pattern 3: Distal weakness with sensory loss | | + | + | | + | | | | - Multiple: vasculitis , HNPP ² , MADSAM, infection (leprosy, Lyme, sarcoid, HIV) - Single: Mononeuropathy , radiculopathy |
| Pattern 4: Asymmetric Proximal and distal weakness with sensory loss | + | + | + | | + | | | | Polyradiculopathy, plexopathy |
| Pattern 5: Asymmetric distal weakness without sensory loss | | + | + | | | | ± | | - LMN and UMN - ALS - Pure UMN - PLS - Pure LMN - MMN ³ . PMA ⁴ , BAD ⁵ , LAD ⁶ , MAMA ⁷ |
| Pattern 6: Symmetric sensory loss and upper motor neuron signs | | + | | + | + | + | + | | b ₁₂ deficiency, copper deficiency, friedreich ataxia, adrenomyeloneuropathy |
| Pattern 7: Symmetric weakness without sensory loss | ± | + | | + | | | | | - Proximal and distal SMA - Distal Hereditary motor neuropathy |
| Pattern 8: Focal midline proximal symmetric weakness | + | | | + | | | + | | ALS |
| Pattern 9: Asymmetric proprioceptive loss without weakness | | | + | | + | + | | | Sensory Neuropathy (Ganglionopathy) |
| Pattern 10: Autonomic dysfunction | | | | | | | | + | HSAN ⁹ , Diabetes, GBS, amyloid, porphyria, Fabry's |

1- CSPN : cryptogenic Sensory peripheral neuropathy
 2- HNPP: Hereditary neuropathy with pressure palsies
 3- MMN: Multifocal motor neuropathy
 4- PMA: Progressive muscular Atrophy
 5- BAD: Brachial amyotrophic diplegia
 6- LAD: leg amyotrophic diplegia

7- MAMA: multifocal acquired motor axonopathy
 8- SMA: Spinal muscular atrophy
 9- HSAN: hereditary sensory and autonomic neuropathy

A 67-year-old woman was referred for **clumsiness, tingling, and pain in both hands** of several months' duration. but the **right was worse than left** and was affected for a longer time that she could not remember. Symptoms were most prominent at night, often awakening her from sleep, or **during hand use** such as driving. Examination showed **slight wasting of both thenar eminences**. Reflexes were normal. **Thumb abduction was weak on the right and normal on the left. Sensation was slightly reduced over the finger pads of the thumb, index, middle, and ring fingers bilaterally.** There was **no Tinel's sign at the wrist** on either side. **A Phalen's maneuver elicited tingling** in the middle finger bilaterally after 30 seconds.



| | |
|---|---|
| Systems involved? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sensory & Motor. |
| Distribution? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Asymmetrical distal. |
| Nature of involvement? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tingling & pain in both hands |
| UMN involvement? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No, only LMN. |
| Temporal evolution? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chronic (Several months). |
| Evidence of hereditary neuropathy? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No. |

❖ **Diagnosis:** → **bilateral median neuropathy at the wrist caused by carpal tunnel syndrome.**

- The **most common focal neuropathy.**
- It is commonly bilateral and usually is asymmetrical.
- Median neuropathy can occur in the wrist and the elbow (more commonly in the wrist)
- If left untreated, wasting of the thenar muscles will occur.

| | Weakness | | | | Sensory symptoms | Severe proprioceptive loss | UMN signs | Autonomic symptoms/signs | Diagnosis ² |
|--|----------|--------|------------|-----------|------------------|----------------------------|-----------|--------------------------|--|
| | Proximal | Distal | Asymmetric | Symmetric | | | | | |
| Pattern 3: Distal weakness with sensory loss | | + | + | | + | | | | - Multiple: vasculitis, HNPP, infection - Single: Mononeuropathy, radiculopathy |



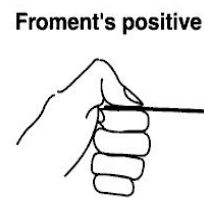
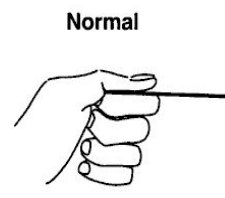
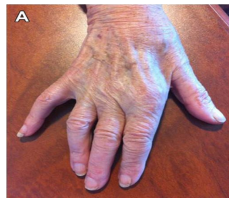
Tinel's test: tapping over a compressed nerve at the wrist reproduces pain and paresthesia, proximal or distal to the site of compression



Phalen's maneuver: having the patient place the wrists in complete unforced flexion for at least 90 seconds, if patient had numbness so it's positive for carpal tunnel syndrome

1- the most common cause of median neuropathy is carpal tunnel syndrome, in which it will be compressed underneath the flexor retinaculum (represented by no1). no2, this area over the thenar eminence is supplied by the palmar branch of the median nerve which branches before the carpal tunnel, so to be affected the lesion needs to be proximal 'could be in the forearm or the elbow'.
 2- the sensory part of the median nerve comes from the upper plexus, the motor comes from the lower plexus so when they're both affected you can exclude plexopathy
 3- thumb abduction mediated by abductor pollicis muscle which is supplied by median nerve

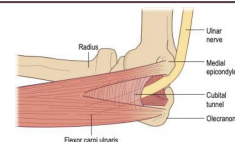
A 65-year-old woman presented with a 3- month history of **right-hand numbness, grip weakness, and vague elbow pain**. Examination demonstrated **diminished sensation of the medial hand and fourth and fifth digits**, and **weakness of finger abduction and adduction**, associated with **intrinsic hand muscle atrophy**. **Froment¹** and **Wartenberg²** signs were evident.



| | |
|---|--|
| Systems involved? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sensory & Motor. |
| Distribution? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Asymmetrical distal. |
| Nature of involvement? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Right-hand numbness. Grip weakness. Vague elbow pain. Diminished sensation of the medial hand and 4th and 5th digits. |
| UMN involvement? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No, only LMN. |
| Temporal evolution? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chronic (3 months). |
| Evidence of hereditary neuropathy? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No. |

❖ **Diagnosis: Mononeuropathy of Ulnar nerve.**

- ❖ Ulnar neuropathy at the elbow usually occurs as a result of chronic mechanical compression or stretch, either at the groove or at the cubital tunnel. The second most common mononeuropathy of the upper limb is ulnar neuropathy (more commonly in the elbow)
- ❖ In ulnar neuropathy there will be weakness in the palmar interossei muscles. If severe will cause clawing of the hand
- ❖ How do I know that it is not a trunk lesion? Because finger extensor muscles (supplied by radial nerve) are not involved.
- ❖ How do I know that it is not a medial cord lesion? Because the diminished sensation is localised to the medial hand and fingers, while the antebrachial cutaneous nerve is unaffected.
- ❖ Could it be AHC ? no, that would be motor without sensory involvement.



| | Weakness | | | | Sensory symptoms | Severe proprioceptive loss | UMN signs | Autonomic symptoms/signs | Diagnosis |
|--|----------|--------|------------|-----------|------------------|----------------------------|-----------|--------------------------|--|
| | Proximal | Distal | Asymmetric | Symmetric | | | | | |
| Pattern 3: Distal weakness with sensory loss | | + | + | | + | | | | - Multiple: vasculitis, HNPP ² , infection (leprosy, lyme, sarcoid, HIV) - Single: Mononeuropathy, radiculopathy |

1- Froment's sign: special test of the wrist for palsy of the **ulnar nerve**, specifically, the action of adductor pollicis. They can't adduct the thumb so the flex it to grasp the paper
 2- Wartenberg's sign neurological sign consisting of involuntary abduction of the fifth (little) finger, caused by unopposed action of the extensor digiti minimi. commonly results from weakness of some of the **ulnar nerve** innervated.

- A 25-year-old man with **NO** family history of neuropathy had been weak early childhood. He remembers he was unable to keep up with his peers when running. He is currently only able to walk if wearing ankle-foot orthosis. **He denied sensory symptoms.**
- Neurological examination showed symmetric severe weakness in **distal leg muscles with power of 1-2/5 with bilateral drop feet. Proximal leg muscles were 4/5** as well as intrinsic hand muscles. Proximal upper limb muscles were normal.
- Reflexes were absent.
- Vibration and proprioception sensation were **absent** over the toes bilaterally and Pinprick and temperature were **decreased** to the knees and wrists.
- Bilateral Pes cavus and hammer toes



| | |
|---|---|
| Systems involved? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Sensory & Motor. |
| Distribution? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Symmetrical distal more than proximal. |
| Nature of involvement? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Vibration and proprioception sensation were absent over the toes bilaterally. ● Pinprick and temperature were decreased to the knees and wrists. |
| UMN involvement? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No, only LMN. |
| Temporal evolution? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Chronic (since childhood). |
| Evidence of hereditary neuropathy? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Even though the patient denies any family history of neuropathy, the fact that it began in childhood, coupled with his denial of any sensory symptoms despite them appearing in physical examination indicates that it is most likely to be hereditary¹. |

- ❖ **Diagnosis: Most likely hereditary (CMT);** as the **chronicity** of the patient's condition rules out a metabolic or drug induced cause of neuropathy. Moreover, finding **skeletal features (Hammer toe & distal muscle wasting) alongside toe lesions (ulcers from loss of sensations), thickened nerve and scoliosis** increase the likelihood of a hereditary condition.
- ❖ Acute onset is not a feature of hereditary neuropathy.

| | Weakness | | | | Sensory symptoms | Severe proprioceptive loss | UMN signs | Autonomic symptoms/signs | Diagnosis |
|---|----------|--------|------------|-----------|------------------|----------------------------|-----------|--------------------------|---|
| | Proximal | Distal | Asymmetric | Symmetric | | | | | |
| Pattern 2: Distal Sensory loss with/ without weakness | | + | | + | + | | | | CSPN ² , metabolic, drugs, hereditary: |

1- most hereditary diseases are autosomal recessive so it may not manifest in other family members, other possibility that they may not have siblings or their siblings can have mild disease that may go unrecognized.
 2- cryptogenic sensory motor polyneuropathy

- A 42-year-old man developed **numbness and tingling in the toes**, progressing up to the ankles over 2 years. He describes burning pain in his feet, mainly at night. He recently started noticing symptoms of numbness and tingling in distal fingers. He denies any weakness.
- Examination showed normal strength, with decreased pinprick and light touch sensations to the ankles and distal fingers. Vibration was absent at the toes and decreased at the ankles, and proprioception is normal at the toes. Reflexes are normal in the arms and at the knees but ankle reflexes are absent. Gait is normal. No skeletal deformities

| | |
|---|---|
| Systems involved? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sensory. |
| Distribution? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Symmetrical distal. |
| Nature of involvement? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • involves both small and large fibers • Numbness and tingling in the toes & distal fingers • Decreased pinprick and light touch sensations to the ankles and distal fingers. |
| UMN involvement? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No, only LMN. |
| Temporal evolution? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chronic (2 years). |
| Evidence of hereditary neuropathy? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No. |

- ❖ **Diagnosis: Metabolic neuropathy (Diabetic distal symmetric polyneuropathy (DSPN)).**
- ❖ Drugs & hereditary causes were excluded from the history. Also diabetic neuropathy featured by having very minimal weakness (**predominantly sensory**) unlike hereditary, furthermore vitamins deficiency may present with UMNL signs

| | Weakness | | | | Sensory symptoms | Severe proprioceptive loss | UMN signs | Autonomic symptoms/signs | Diagnosis |
|---|----------|--------|------------|-----------|------------------|----------------------------|-----------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| | Proximal | Distal | Asymmetric | Symmetric | | | | | |
| Pattern 2: Distal Sensory loss with/ without weakness | | + | | + | + | | | | CSPN, metabolic, drugs, hereditary. |

An area for your notes or something..

Diabetic neuropathy

Introduction

- ❖ 66% of patients with DM had subclinical or clinical evidence of a peripheral neuropathy
- ❖ Diabetic neuropathy causes substantial morbidity and increases mortality.
- ❖ It is diagnosed on the basis of symptoms and signs, after the exclusion of other causes of neuropathy.
- ❖ Pathological features can occur in any peripheral nerves.
- ❖ The main cause of skin ulcers of the feet which lead to osteomyelitis.
- ❖ The occurrence of neuropathy correlates positively with:
 - Age.
 - Poor glycaemic control.
 - presence of diabetic retinopathy.
 - presence of diabetic nephropathy.

| 20.40 Classification of diabetic neuropathy | |
|--|---|
| Somatic | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Polyneuropathy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Symmetrical, mainly sensory and distal Asymmetrical, mainly motor and proximal (including amyotrophy) • Mononeuropathy (including mononeuritis multiplex) | |
| Visceral (autonomic) | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cardiovascular • Gastrointestinal • Genitourinary | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sudomotor • Vasomotor • Pupillary |

Classification

Two thirds of diabetics have subclinical or clinical evidence of neuropathies: **50% have polyneuropathy, 25% carpal tunnel, 5% autonomic** and 1% plexopathy or radiculopathy.

Asymmetric

- Diabetic radiculoplexopathy (amyotrophy)
- Truncal neuropathies (thoracic radiculopathy)
- Cranial neuropathies (3rd or 6th cranial nerve)
- **Mononeuropathies, mostly CTS (Most common asymmetric)**

Symmetric

- **Distal symmetric polyneuropathy (DSPN) (Most common symmetric)**
 - Sensory or sensory motor
- **Small fiber neuropathy¹ (Common)**
- Autonomic neuropathy
- Diabetic neuropathic cachexia
- Treatment-induced diabetic neuropathy

Management

- ❖ Management is dependent on the site affected. outlined in this picture from Davidson.
- ❖ When the neuropathy leads to pain, treatment is with pregabalin, gabapentin, or tricyclic antidepressants.

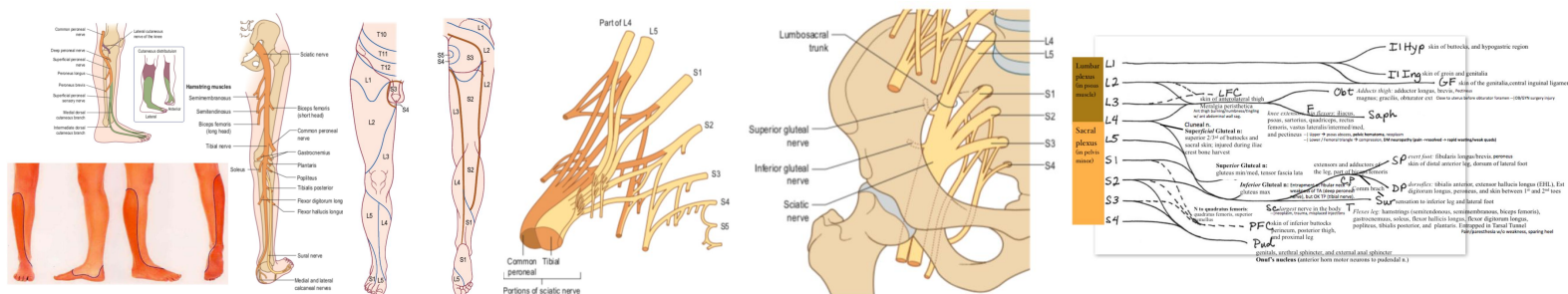
| 20.43 Management options for peripheral sensorimotor and autonomic neuropathies | |
|--|--|
| Pain and paraesthesiae from peripheral somatic neuropathies | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intensive insulin therapy (strict glycaemic control) • Anticonvulsants (gabapentin, pregabalin, carbamazepine, phenytoin) • Tricyclic antidepressants (amitriptyline, imipramine) • Other antidepressants (duloxetine) • Substance P depletor (capsaicin – topical) • Opiates (tramadol, oxycodone) • Membrane stabilisers (mexiletine, IV lidocaine) • Antioxidant (α-lipoic acid) | |
| Postural hypotension | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support stockings • Fludrocortisone • NSAIDs | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • α-adrenoceptor agonist (midodrine) |
| Gastroparesis | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dopamine antagonists (metoclopramide, domperidone) • Erythromycin • Botulinum toxin | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gastric pacemaker; percutaneous enteral (jejunal) feeding (see Fig. 19.10, p. 708) |
| Diarrhoea (p. 783) | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loperamide • Broad-spectrum antibiotics | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clonidine • Octreotide |
| Constipation | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stimulant laxatives (senna) | |
| Atonic bladder | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intermittent self-catheterisation (p. 1093) | |
| Excessive sweating | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anticholinergic drugs (propranolol, poldine, oxybutinin) • Clonidine • Topical antimuscarinic agent (glycopyrrolate cream) | |
| Erectile dysfunction (p. 440) | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Phosphodiesterase type 5 inhibitors (sildenafil, vardenafil, tadalafil) – oral • Dopamine agonist (apomorphine) – sublingual • Prostaglandin E₁ (alprostadil) – injected into corpus cavernosum or intra-urethral administration of pellets • Vacuum tumescence devices • Implanted penile prosthesis • Psychological counselling; psychosexual therapy | |
| (NSAIDs = non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs) | |

1- Also it can be combined large and small. Most of the time they will present with numbness, tingling or burning pain at the toes, after long time they develop mild weakness mostly without paralysis.

- A 36-year-old man. Eight weeks ago, he **had bent down to lift a chair** and developed acute **pain in the right back and buttock with radiating paresthesias into the calf and lateral foot.**

- Neurologic examination:

- Normal muscle bulk and tone in the lower extremities.
- **Straight-leg raising elicited pain and paresthesias** in to the right leg at 45 degrees.
- **Power: weakness in right hip extension, knee flexion, and ankle plantar flexion.**
- Sensory examination: **mild sensory loss** on the right sole and lateral foot.
- Deep tendon reflexes: **right ankle reflex was absent**, other DTRs were normal.



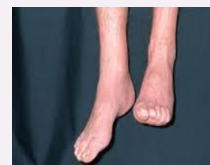
| | |
|---|---|
| Systems involved? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sensory & Motor. |
| Distribution? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Asymmetrical proximal & distal. |
| Nature of involvement? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vibration and proprioception sensation were absent over the toes bilaterally. • Pinprick and temperature were decreased to the knees and wrists. |
| UMN involvement? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No, only LMN. |
| Temporal evolution? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Subacute (8 weeks). |
| Evidence of hereditary neuropathy? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No. |

- ❖ **Diagnosis: S1 Radiculopathy; symptoms follow dermatomes and myotomes of S1.**
- ❖ **How did we tell? Shooting pain > root**
 - Weakness of hip extension? Gluteus maximus is supplied by inferior gluteal (**S1** Root)
 - Weakness of knee flexion? Hamstrings and biceps femoris (sciatic nerve) (**S1 & L5**)
 - Weakness of ankle plantar flexion? Gastrocnemius and Soleus(tibial nerve 'branch of the sciatic')(**S1&S2**)
 - Absent ankle reflex? **S1**
 - **What's the common root involved in all of them? S1**
- ❖ **Why was it not Sciatic nerve?**
 - Motor: Sciatic nerve DOESN'T SUPPLY hip extension, it supplies knee flexion (hamstrings and biceps femoris) and all muscles below the knee.
 - Sensory: The Sciatic nerve has the Peroneal and Tibial nerves' sensory distribution, which is not the case here.
- ❖ **The most common affected roots?**
 - L5 & S1
 - Weakness of foot dorsiflexion, inversion & eversion? tibialis anterior (**L5** root)
 - Weakness of hip abduction? hip abductor muscle supplied by superior gluteal nerve (**L5**)
 - Weakness of dorsiflexion, eversion & normal hip abduction, inversion? common fibular (peroneal) nerve (L4-S2)



| | Weakness | | | | Sensory symptoms | Severe proprioceptive loss | UMN signs | Autonomic symptoms/signs | Diagnosis |
|---|----------|--------|------------|-----------|------------------|----------------------------|-----------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| | Proximal | Distal | Asymmetric | Symmetric | | | | | |
| Pattern 4: Asymmetric Proximal and distal weakness without sensory loss | + | + | + | | + | | | | Polyradiculopathy, plexopathy |

- A 56-year-old man was referred for a **persistent foot drop** 3 weeks after coronary artery bypass surgery. Shortly after awakening from anesthesia, the patient noted **difficulty dorsiflexing his right foot and toes**. In addition, there was a pins-and-needles sensation over the dorsum of the right foot. He noted that when he was walking, his right foot would slap with each step. There was no pain, and the left leg was unaffected.
- On examination, muscle bulk and tone were normal and symmetric in both legs. **There was marked weakness of right ankle and toe dorsiflexion (1/5)** as well as **ankle eversion (2/5)**. Foot inversion, ankle and toe plantar flexion, knee flexion, and all movements around the hip were normal. Deep tendon reflexes were intact and symmetric.
- Sensory examination showed a **well-demarcated loss of sensation to pinprick and temperature** over the dorsum of the right foot extending into the lateral calf. Sensation over the right lateral knee was normal, as was sensation over the lateral foot, sole of the foot, and medial calf.



notice how the lateral aspect is not affected because it is supplied by the sural nerve

| | |
|---|---|
| Systems involved? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sensory & Motor. |
| Distribution? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Asymmetrical distal. |
| Nature of involvement? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vibration and proprioception sensation were absent over the toes bilaterally. • Pinprick and temperature were decreased to the knees and wrists. |
| UMN involvement? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No, only LMN. |
| Temporal evolution? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acute (3 weeks). |
| Evidence of hereditary neuropathy? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No. |

- ❖ **Diagnosis: Common peroneal nerve damage; because the inversion and abduction are preserved.**
- ❖ The most common mononeuropathy of the lower limb is fibular neuropathy (more commonly at fibular head)
- ❖ How did we know it's common peroneal nerve? → Tibialis anterior muscle weakness = foot drop. Supplied by common peroneal nerve and L5
- ❖ Hip abduction and foot inversion is supplied by → L5
- ❖ Why didn't we say sciatic? → the sciatic also gives a tibial branch which is not affected. the only distribution here that's affected is the common peroneal. (inversion and plantar flexion are preserved)
- ❖ the lesion is well demarcated unlike the nerve root lesions where the sensory loss is distributed as dermatomes will not be well demarcated.
- ❖ this post surgical patient has been in bed a long period. where the knee was not supported and there was compression at the fibular head and it caused a damage to the common peroneal nerve. thankfully, it's reversible

| | Weakness | | | | Sensory symptoms | Severe proprioceptive loss | UMN signs | Autonomic symptoms/signs | Diagnosis |
|--|----------|--------|------------|-----------|------------------|----------------------------|-----------|--------------------------|--|
| | Proximal | Distal | Asymmetric | Symmetric | | | | | |
| Pattern 3: Distal weakness with sensory loss | | + | + | | + | | | | - Multiple: vasculitis, HNPP ² , infection (leprosy, Lyme, sarcoid, HIV) - Single: Mononeuropathy, radiculopathy |

- A 25 year-old woman developed numbness and tingling of the feet and hands followed by progressive leg more than arm muscle weakness over the **last week**. She experienced a diarrheal illness 3 weeks ago that had resolved within 10 days.
- Examination showed marked **bifacial weakness** and absent muscle stretch reflexes. She had normal pinprick, light touch and proprioception but **vibration** was reduced at the toes.
- Muscle power in the lower limbs was 2/5 and in the upper limbs 3/5, with equal proximal and distal weakness. She could not stand up or walk with assistance. DTR were absent

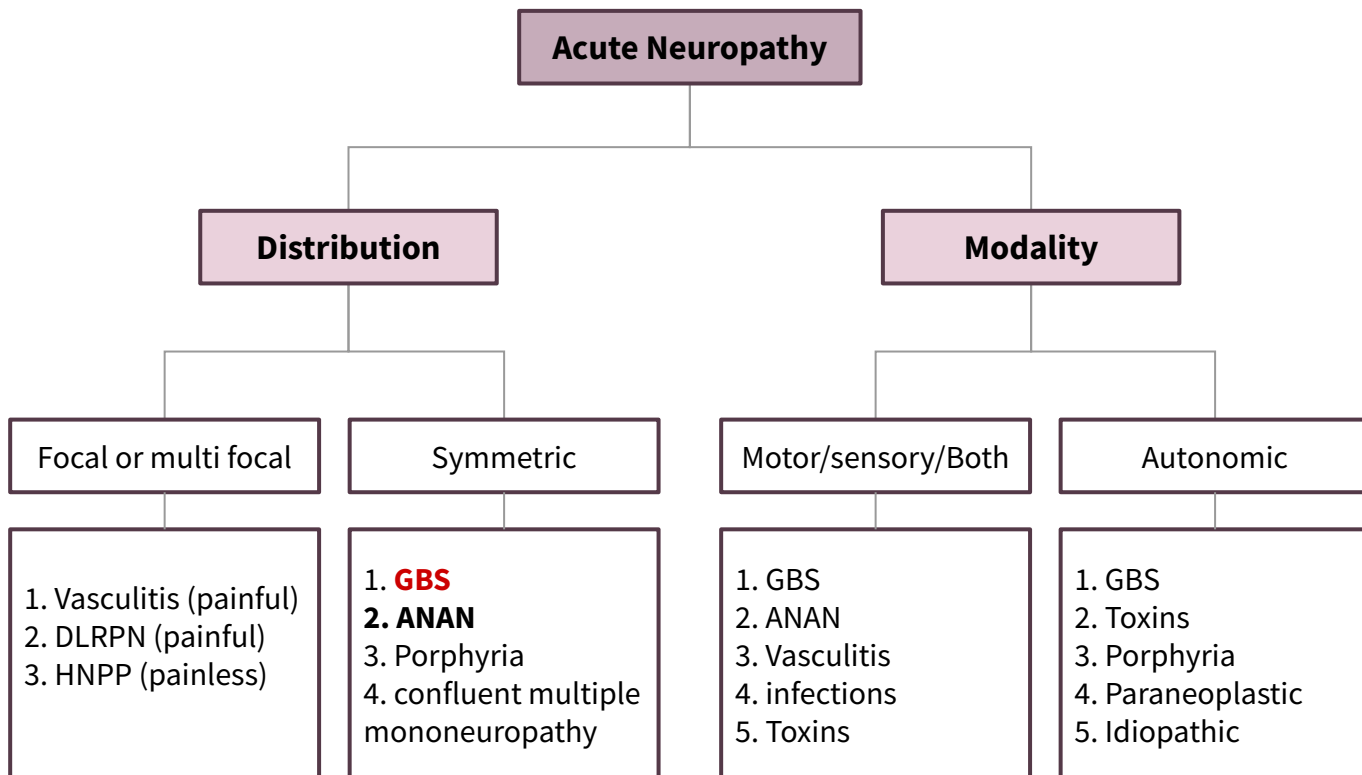
| | |
|---|--|
| Systems involved? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sensory & Motor. |
| Distribution? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Symmetrically proximal & distal. |
| Nature of involvement? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Numbness and tingling of the feet and hands • Leg more than arm muscle weakness • Vibration was reduced at the toes. |
| UMN involvement? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No, only LMN. |
| Temporal evolution? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acute (over the last week) |
| Evidence of hereditary neuropathy? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No. |

❖ **Diagnosis: GBS , peaks at week 4 .**

- Whenever it's **acute + preceded by infection** (whether gastroenteritis or respiratory) consider GBS.
- whenever it's acute, distal, symmetrical, progressive (affecting distal and then proximal) it's GBS until proven otherwise
- **If it's chronic more than 8 weeks we would think of CIDP**

| | Weakness | | | | Sensory symptoms | Severe proprioceptive loss | UMN signs | Autonomic symptoms/signs | Diagnosis |
|---|----------|--------|------------|-----------|------------------|----------------------------|-----------|--------------------------|-----------|
| | Proximal | Distal | Asymmetric | Symmetric | | | | | |
| Pattern 1: symmetric proximal and distal weakness with sensory loss | + | + | | + | + | | | | GBS, CIDP |

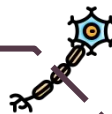
An area for your notes or something..




- The acute neuropathies based on distribution could be focal/multifocal and they could be symmetric, I don't want you to know everything here, just that the symmetric is GBS.
- Acute focal or multi-focal (**Acute + Asymmetric**) is caused by **VASCULITIS (Painful mononeuropathy)**
- **ANAN:** Acute nutritional **axonal** neuropathy, it's caused by **Thiamine (B1 deficiency)**. it occurs following a bariatric surgery, has the same pattern as GBS. however, it's **Axonal unlike GBS which is usually Demyelinating**

◀ Clinical features of GBS

- ❖ **Paralysis follows 1-3 weeks after an infection**
- ❖ infecting organisms (usually campylobacter jejuni) induce antibody responses against peripheral nerves (Molecular mimicry)
- ❖ signs and symptoms include:
 - weakness of the **distal** limb muscles and/or **distal** numbness. (usually **symmetrical**)
 - Low Back pain
 - The weakness and sensory loss progress proximally, over several days to weeks (**acute**)
 - Could be Motor, sensory, autonomic or combination
 - **Loss of tendon reflexes**



Findings in GBS patients

| Test | Findings |
|--|---|
| CBC | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Normal |
| vitamin B ₁₂ | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Normal |
| Serum glucose and A1c | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> both are normal |
| Specific protein electrophoresis (SPEP) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Normal |
| Creatine kinase (CK) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Normal |
| TSH | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Normal |
| Lactate | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Normal |
| Forced vital capacity | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Normal (2 liters in last case) |
| Nerve conduction studies (NCS) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No need to memorize these things. just know that it shows demyelinating features like Prolonged latency (due to loss of myelin). |
|  Cerebrospinal fluid | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cells count = 0 “Normal” & protein is high (82 mg/dl in last case) (Normal is below 50) This is called cytoalbuminologic dissociation (in both CIDP and GBS) it's a CSF feature of demyelinating neuropathies |

Treatment and management

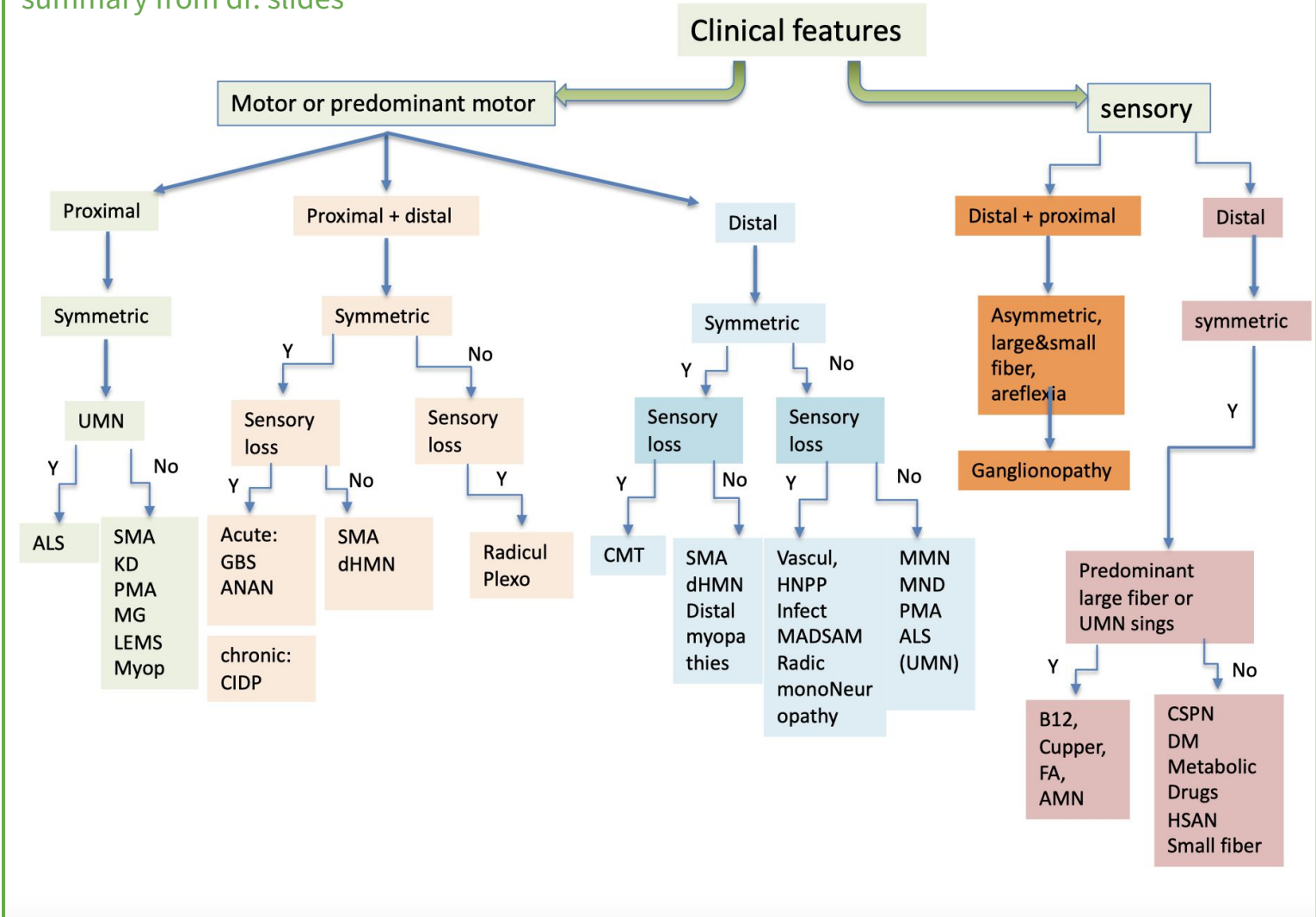
| Treatment | Management |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ IVIG^{1,2} ❖ or Plasmapheresis ❖ Supportive therapy and physiotherapy ❖ Usually they improve (good prognosis) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Monitor progression and prevent and manage potentially fatal complications, especially: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Regularly monitor pulmonary functions³ ➤ Regularly check for autonomic dysfunction ➤ Check for swallowing dysfunction ➤ Recognize and treat pain ➤ Prevent and treat infections and pulmonary embolism ➤ Prevent corneal ulceration due to facial weakness ➤ Prevent decubitus and contractures |

1- Patients should be screened for IgA deficiency before immunoglobulin is given

2- uncommon but major side effect: Aseptic meningitis

3-The most dangerous thing that can happen with GBS is dysautonomia or involvement of the respiratory muscles. (can result in death)

summary from dr. slides



EXTRA: Guillain barre syndrome vs Chronic inflammatory demyelination polyneuropathy

| | GBS | CIDP |
|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| Onset | Acute (days up to 4 weeks max.) | Chronic (weeks to months) |
| Antecedent events (usually infectoin) | more frequent (70% have infection, vaccination or surgery approximately 4 weeks prior to to the onset) | less frequent (no more than 30%) |
| Cranial nerve involvement | more frequent | Less frequent |
| ventilator | pt. need it more frequently | less frequently |
| Autmmonic | labile HTN, Arrhythmias might be present | less frequent than GBS |

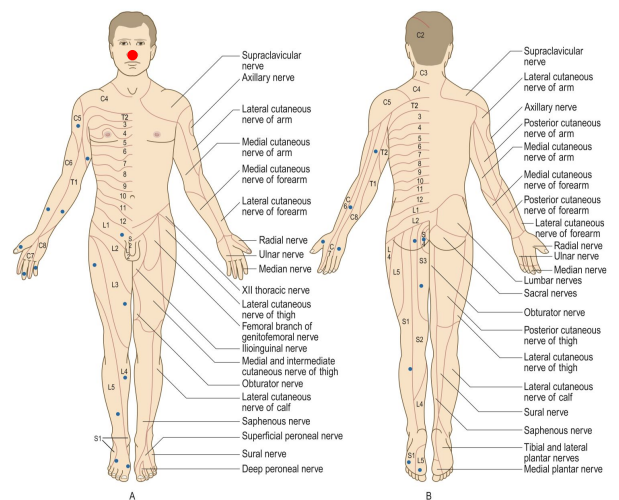


Fig. 7.26 Dermatomal and sensory peripheral map innervation. Points (shown in blue) for testing cutaneous sensation of the limbs. By applying stimuli at the points marked, both the dermatomal and main peripheral nerve distributions are tested simultaneously. [A] Anterior view. [B] Posterior view.

Dermatomes and nerves map coincides with the doctors map

Summary

History and examination

History

Symptoms:

- sensory -motor -distal leg abnormalities - proximal abnormalities - upper extremity predominance - autonomic onset

<4 weeks (acute) , 4-8 week (subacute), >8 weeks (chronic)

Duration

Progression

past medical history and co-morbidities

Family history

Social history

Examination

Confirm localization: - LMN vs UMN - myopathy vs neuropathy

Recognize pattern of neuropathy

- Motor vs sensory vs sensory motor
- Proximal vs distal
- Symmetric vs asymmetric

Recognize features of hereditary neuropathy

Recognize features that narrow the differential diagnosis.

- Purpura and leucoma reticularis

Autonomic features

- BP & HR supine and standing
- Pupillary reaction to light and accommodation

Other:

- Skin: trophic changes (such as thin, shiny, and discolored skin)
- ulcerations or amputations.
- peripheral pulses.

Approach (6 questions)

Q1- What systems are involved?

Q2- What is the distribution of weakness?

Q3- What is the nature of the sensory involvement?

Q4- Is there evidence of UMN involvement?

Q5- What is the temporal evolution?

Q6- Is there evidence for a hereditary neuropathy?

Neuropathies

| | | |
|---|-------------------|---|
| Carpal tunnel | features | finger with muscle atrophy of the thenar eminence. The pain is worse at night |
| | Diagnosis | The most accurate diagnostic tests are electromyography and nerve conduction testing. |
| | Treatment | The best initial therapy is with wrist splints to immobilize the hand in a position to relieve pressure. Surgery can be curative and is highly indicated in cases of muscle wasting |
| Charcot-Marie-Tooth Disease (Hereditary neuropathy) | Clinical features | Charcot-Marie-Tooth (CMT) is a genetic disorder with loss of both motor and sensory innervation leading to Distal weakness and sensory loss, Wasting in the legs, Decreased deep tendon reflexes and Tremor |
| | Diagnosis | The most accurate test is electromyography |
| | Treatment | there is no treatment. |
| Guillain barre syndrome | Clinical features | weakness in the legs that ascends, when GBS hits the diaphragm, it is associated with respiratory muscle weakness. Autonomic dysfunction with hypotension, hypertension, or tachycardia can occur. |
| | Diagnosis | The most specific diagnostic test is nerve conduction studies/electromyography. CSF shows increased protein with a normal cell count. |
| | Treatment | Intravenous immunoglobulin (IVIG) or plasmapheresis are equal in efficacy. |

Lecture Quiz

Q1: A 65-year-old man presents to the ED with lower extremity weakness. His symptoms started 1 week prior when he noticed difficulty walking and he tripped once. He now has difficulty raising his legs off the floor and is now using a wheelchair. He denies any pain in his lower extremities but does have paresthesias in both legs. He denies weakness elsewhere. He denies dyspnea or any other associated symptoms. Prior to this he had an episode of nonbloody diarrhea a few weeks prior but that is now resolved. His only past medical history is hypertension for which he takes hydrochlorothiazide. Cardiac examination is normal. Pulmonary examination reveals non labored breathing, clear lung fields, and O₂ saturation 98% on room air. Neurologic examination reveals normal speech without dysarthria and cranial nerves without deficits. Strength is 5/5 in bilateral upper extremities in shoulder/elbow/wrist flexion and extension, 1/5 dorsiflexion/plantar flexion bilateral ankles, 1/5 flexion/extension knees, 2/5 hip flexion. Achilles and patellar reflexes are absent bilaterally. Sensory examination is normal. Labs including electrolytes, renal function, and blood counts are normal. CT head is negative for stroke and shows no acute findings. Lumbar puncture is performed and analysis reveals 3 WBC/mm³, protein 100 mg/dL (normal range <50 mg/dL), Gram stain negative. What is the most appropriate therapy?

- A. Prednisone.
- B. IVIG.
- C. Ciprofloxacin.
- D. Pyridostigmine.

Q2: A 18 years old male presented with weakness and numbness for 5 years. On examination he had high arched feet. Reflexes was absent. Sensory examination showed abnormal sensation to pinprick and vibration. Muscle power was 2/5 distally, 4/5 proximally in lower limbs. And 3/5 distally, 5/5 proximally in upper limbs. Which one of the following is the most appropriate description for his neuropathy?

- A. Diabetic Neuropathy.
- B. Inherited Neuropathy.
- C. Toxic Neuropathy.
- D. Vitamin B12 Deficiency.

Q3: A 55-year old female presented with ascending weakness and sensory loss that started 2 weeks ago after having upper respiratory tract infection. Her neurological examination showed weakness in upper and lower limbs that was symmetric and graded as 3/5. Reflexes were diminished. She had sensory loss to pinprick, vibration and joint position in both upper and lower limbs. Which ONE of the following localizations is consistent with this pattern?

- A. Anterior horn cell.
- B. Diffuse peripheral nerves and nerve roots.
- C. Dorsal root ganglia.
- D. Neuromuscular junction.

Q4: A 31-year-old woman presents to accident and emergency with progressive difficulty walking associated with lower back pain. A few days ago she was tripping over things, now she has difficulty climbing stairs. She describes tingling and numbness in both hands which moved up to her elbows, she is unable to write. On examination, cranial nerves are intact but there is absent sensation to vibration and pin prick in her upper limbs to the elbow and lower limbs to the hip. Power is % in the ankles and 4-/5 at the hip with absent reflexes and mute plantars. Her blood pressure is 124/85, pulse 68 and sats 98 per cent on air. She has a past medical history of type I diabetes and recently recovered from an episode of food poisoning a month or two ago. What is the diagnosis?

- A. MS.
- B. Guillain-Barré syndrome (GBS).
- C. Diabetic neuropathy.
- D. Infective neuropathy.

Q5: A 28 year old man describes evolving weakness of all four limbs over 8 weeks, and most recently some dyspnoea. Blood tests are normal and lumbar puncture shows a raised CSF protein but no cells. A diagnosis of chronic inflammatory demyelinating polyneuropathy (CIDP) is made . Which of the following patterns of abnormality on nerve conduction studies and EMG is likely to be present at the time of diagnosis?

- A. Delayed conduction in motor and sensory nerves with denervation on EMG.
- B. Delayed conduction in sensory and motor nerves with normal EMG.
- C. Normal nerve conduction studies but denervation changes on EMG.
- D. Small sensory nerve and compound motor action potentials but normal EMG.

Q6: Patient presented with 2 months of Right leg pain. He also has back pain. On physical examination he had muscle power of 4/5 in dorsiflexion, eversion and inversion. And had 5/5 in ankle flexion, knee flexion and extension, hip flexion and extension, and hip adduction. And had 4/5 in hip abduction. He also showed sensory deficits with pinprick test but had normal vibration test. What is the most likely diagnosis?

- A. Common peroneal injury.
- B. L5 radiculopathy.
- C. Femoral nerve injury.
- D. Popliteal injury.

GOOD LUCK!

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