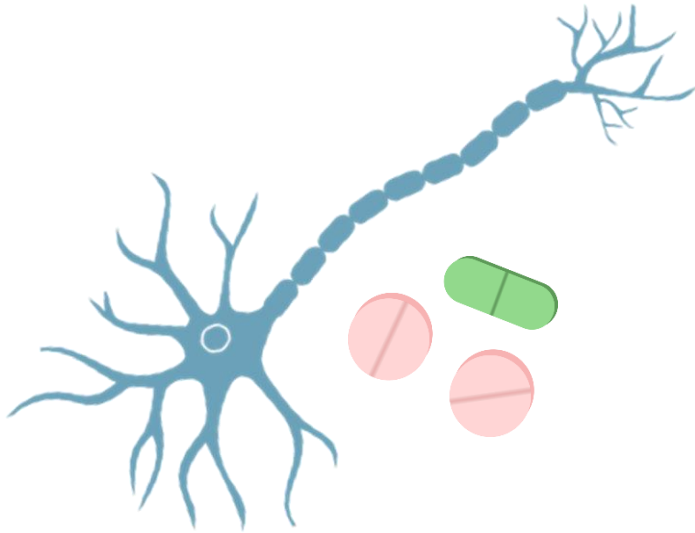




مدينة الملك فهد الطبية
King Fahad Medical City



Neuropathy Secondary to Drugs (I)

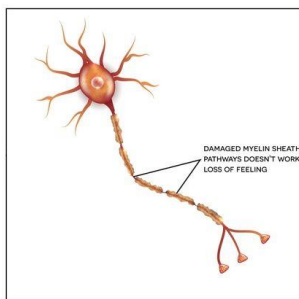
Neuropathy secondary to drugs is a loss of sensation or movement in a part of the body due to nerve damage from a certain medicine.



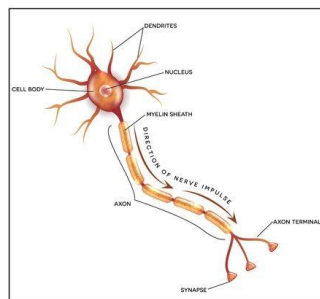
Causes

The damage is caused by the toxic effects of certain medicines on the peripheral nerves (nerves that are not in the brain or spinal cord).

There may be damage to the axon part of the nerve cell, which interferes with nerve signals.



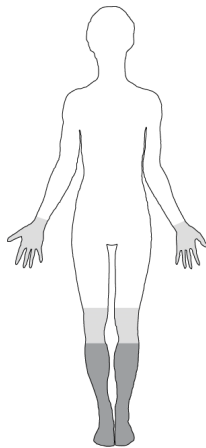
UNHEALTHY NERVE CELL



HEALTHY NERVE CELL

Most commonly, many nerves are involved (polyneuropathy).

This usually causes sensation changes that begin in the outside parts of the body (distal) and move toward the center of the body (proximal). There may also be changes in movement, such as weakness.



Many medicines may affect the development of neuropathy, including:

Heart or blood pressure drugs

- Amiodarone
- Hydralazine
- Perhexiline

Drugs used to fight infections

- Chloroquine
- Isoniazid (INH), used against tuberculosis
- Metronidazole (Flagyl)
- Nitrofurantoin
- Thalidomide (used to fight leprosy)

Drugs used to fight cancer

- Cisplatin
- Docetaxel
- Paclitaxel
- Suramin
- Vincristine

Drugs used to treat skin conditions

- Dapsone

Anticonvulsants

- Phenytoin

Anti-alcohol drugs

- Disulfiram

Arsenic

Colchicine

Gold

Drugs used to treat autoimmune diseases

- Etanercept
- Infliximab
- Leflunomide



Symptoms

Symptoms may include any of the following:

Numbness

Tingling

Weakness

Loss of sensation

Abnormal sensations

Sensation changes usually begin in the feet or hands and move inward.



Treatment

Treatment is based on the symptoms and how severe they are.

The drug causing the neuropathy may be stopped, reduced in dose, or changed to another drug. (Never change any drug without first talking to your health care provider).

The following drugs may be used to control pain:

- **Over-the-counter pain relievers may be helpful for mild pain (neuralgia).**
- **Phenytoin, carbamazepine, gabapentin, pregabalin, duloxetine, or tricyclic antidepressants such as nortriptyline may reduce the stabbing pains some people experience.**

- **Opiate pain relievers, such as morphine or fentanyl, may be needed to control severe pain.**

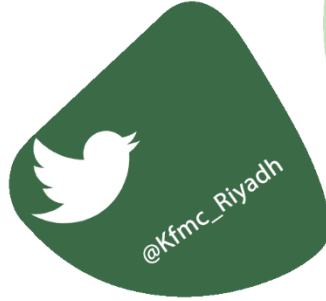
Whenever possible, avoid or reduce use of medicines to lessen the risk of side effects.

There are currently no medicines that can reverse the loss of sensation. If you have lost sensation, you may need to take safety measures to avoid injury.

لأن الوعي وقاية ..

إدارة التخفيف الصحي

Anesthesiology department



HEM3.16.000146

